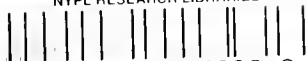


NYPL RESEARCH LIBRARIES



3 3433 08184292 8



W.D.  
Ginsbury  
Sawyer







Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2008 with funding from  
Microsoft Corporation

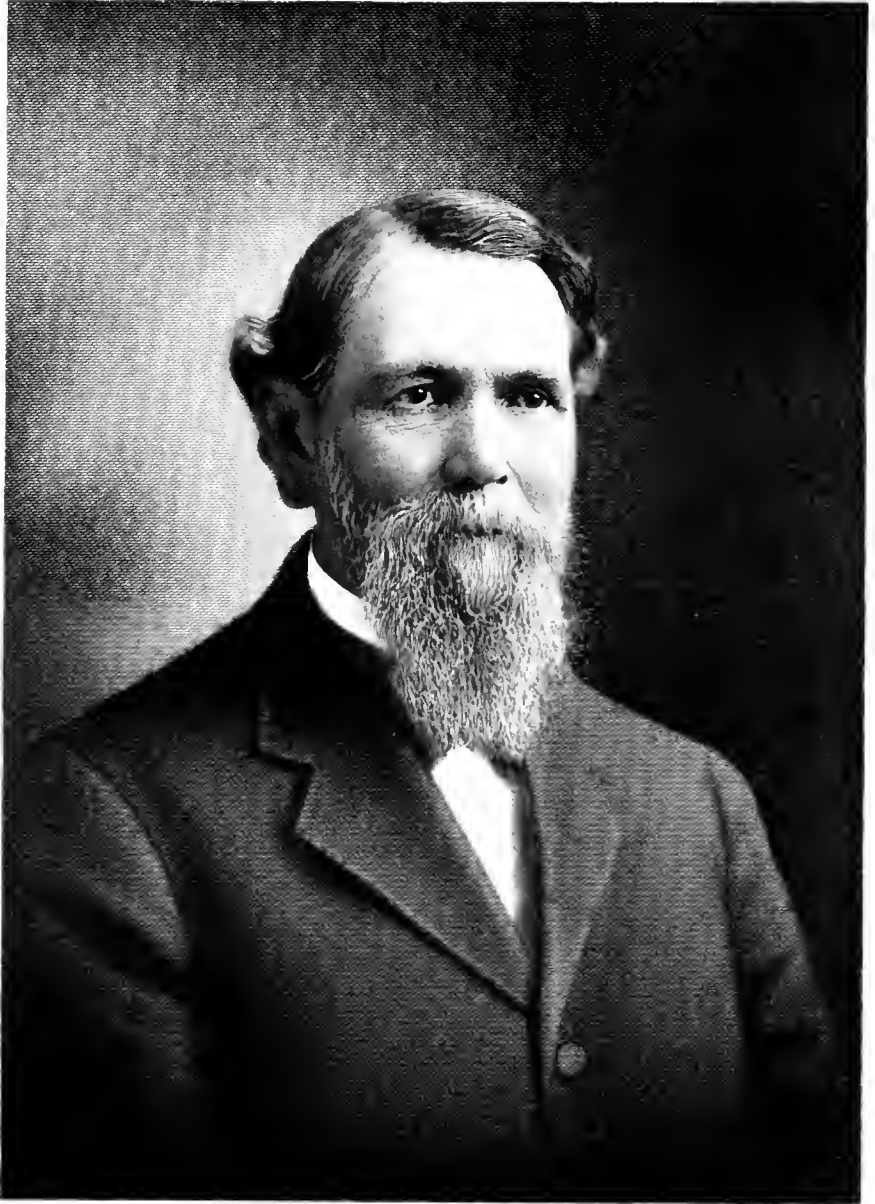












*A. J. Sawyer.*



# LINCOLN

*The Capital City*

AND

## LANCASTER COUNTY

## NEBRASKA

ANDREW J. SAWYER

*Supervising Editor*

---

ILLUSTRATED

---

VOLUME I

---

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY

1916

*312*

Prophet:

O ye warriors, O ye young men,  
O ye women, O ye people!  
Hear the words that I am speaking!  
In the days that yet are coming,  
In the days of the tomorrow,  
Here beside the stream Niskithe ke  
There shall be a mighty village,  
There shall be a town of white men,  
Fairest town in all Nebraska!  
Niskithe shall our people call it,  
Niskithe, Salt-Town, shall they call it;  
But the white men, they will name it  
For the bravest of their warriors,  
For the noblest of their chieftains,  
For the wisest of their wise men!  
I have spoken, I have spoken.

*"Pageant of Lincoln," 1915.*

## A PREFATORY REMARK

The history of a community is, in many respects, particularly the pioneer history, a story founded upon tradition. It is a well known fact that the records of the days of long ago have not been properly preserved. In the beginning of Nebraska history, as recorded by white men, and also that of Lancaster County, settlements were miles apart. This was a country of long distances, without the telegraph and telephone to shorten the leagues. The pioneers traveled in the saddle, upon wagons or on foot and thought nothing of it. It is after one gains a luxury that he thinks it indispensable. The motive of the Easterners in coming to this trackless prairie was purely an economic one. The exodus to the Great West occurred when living conditions became undesirable or unprofitable in the East.

The men who have attempted the task of preparing a history of the city of Lincoln and Lancaster County, Nebraska, have endeavored conscientiously to perform the work and to secure facts which are creditable to the present generation and which should be recorded for the benefit of the generations yet to come. The biographical volume should be especially interesting in future decades to those whose ancestors have made history in the past. The teachings of the fathers and pride in their achievements have been mighty factors in the world's advancement. The pioneers who builded states were not the products of chance, but came from strong and vigorous ancestry.

That, in this history, much has been omitted which should have been preserved is probable; that some statements have not been sufficiently extended is likely; and that some generally accepted facts may not accord with individual experience and preconceived notions is possible; but the men who have prepared the work have done the best they could with the means of knowledge at hand.

History is not like mathematics, an exact science. Witnesses in court who see the same things rarely see them from the same angle or testify alike as to the exact facts. Much of history, as stated before, is tradition, tales passing from mouth to mouth, from sire to son, from generation to generation, and the truth never gains in the transmission of these tales. We accept as fact a great deal of history which doubtless never occurred; much that in the light of the larger experience of our time we know cannot be true, but we take it with allowance and glean from it what good we can. The public and written records are reliable so far as they go, but are more often defective or incomplete. The recollections of actors in past events are of value as history, but their credibility must be taken with regard to the accuracy of their observation and memory, the soundness of their judgment and their reliability to relate the facts unbiased by preconceived notions or personal interest.

No one person was delegated by law or nature to be supreme in the collection of historical facts. It is a labor of the people and not of an individual; nor is



any one individual or society qualified to a superior extent to perform such a work. The shop-keeper, the merchant, the banker, the lawyer, the physician, the capitalist and the layman, all, have their bit to add. Careful procedure and intelligent work are the main requisites, notwithstanding the moss-covered ideas which have existed in regard to the writing of history.

From all available sources the historians have sought to gather the facts for this work. The development of Lancaster County covers one-half of a century; the greater part of it has been accomplished in the last twenty-five years, but in the brief space of time which this history covers, the early settlers who have made history have nearly all gone. Many of the pioneers moved on to newer scenes when population, as they felt, began to crowd them. They were not content to be other than pioneers. The most of the first generation of settlers upon the wild prairie are dead. They were too busy making a living to leave much record of their doings. We hope that the record of this county and city will prove, on completion, all that its projectors have promised and that its subscribers will appreciate the work which has been accomplished. All our judgment of our fellow men and of their work may follow the old adage: "Be to their faults a little blind; be to their virtues very kind."

# CONTENTS

---

## A PREFATORY REMARK

### CHAPTER I

#### SOIL SURVEY OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

CLIMATE — AGRICULTURE — SOILS — MARSHALL SILT LOAM — MARSHALL LOAM —  
WABASH SILT LOAM—LANCASTER FINE SANDY LOAM—ALKALI—SUMMARY . . . I

### CHAPTER II

#### EARLY SETTLEMENT OF LANCASTER COUNTY

THE PREY FAMILY—OTHER SETTLEMENTS—INDIAN DISTURBANCES—PREEMPTION  
AND HOMESTEAD LAWS—FIRST CLAIMS IN THE COUNTY—EARLY TAX LISTS . . . 16

### CHAPTER III

ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT OF LANCASTER COUNTY—COUNTY ELECTIONS—  
COURT HOUSE . . . . . 27

### CHAPTER IV

#### IMPORTANT PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THE FIRST BOARD—EARLY MEETINGS—TAX LEVY—LOT DONATIONS—OFFER TO BUR-  
LINGTON—TERRITORIAL BRIDGE—MORE LOT DONATIONS—PRICE OF LOTS—STATE  
CAPITAL INDUCEMENT—INCORPORATION OF LINCOLN—OFFER TO RAILROAD  
COMPANIES—BURLINGTON BONDS—OTHER RAILROAD BONDS—COUNTY OFFICE  
ROOMS—NEW PRECINCT DIVISION—FIRST COURT HOUSE AND JAIL ACTION—  
RAILROAD AID—COURT HOUSE SQUARE EXCHANGE—LANCASTER COUNTY POOR  
HOUSE AND POOR FARM—STATE FAIR PROPOSITION—AID FOR L. B. & R. V. R. R.  
COMPANY—FIRTH—O. & R. V. R. R. COMPANY—L. & N. W. R. R. COMPANY—  
BENNETT—COURT HOUSE LEVY—PRECINCT FORMATION—WAVERLY—HICKMAN  
—ROCA—COURT HOUSE BOND ELECTIONS—COMMISSIONERS' TOUR—WEST LIN-  
COLN — COURT HOUSE CONTRACTS — SECOND BIDS — SECOND PLANS — BIDS —  
UNIVERSITY PLACE — RAYMOND — COLLEGE VIEWS — JAIL BONDS — HALLAM  
—PANAMA—FLOOD SUFFERERS—SPRAGUE—DENTON—DAVEY . . . . . 42

## CHAPTER V

## THE STORY OF THE SALT BASIN

THE LEGEND—EARLY EXPECTATIONS—SALT CREEK SETTLERS—EARLY DAYS AT THE SALT BASIN, BY JOHN S. GREGORY—LITIGATION OVER THE SALT LANDS—THE LINCOLN SALT BASIN, BY JOHN H. AMES—SUBSEQUENT WORKINGS.....	57
--	----

## CHAPTER VI

THE TOWN OF LANCASTER.....	76
----------------------------	----

## CHAPTER VII

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO LOCATE THE SEAT OF  
GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

CONVEYANCER'S REPORT—REMOVING THE STATE ARCHIVES.....	80
---	----

## CHAPTER VIII

## JOHN MORRIS' REPORT ON STATE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

THE FIRST STATE CAPITAL, BY THOMAS MALLOY.....	93
--	----

## CHAPTER IX

THE CAPITAL QUESTION IN NEBRASKA AND THE LOCATION OF THE SEAT OF GOVERN- MENT AT LINCOLN, BY C. H. GERE.....	100
---	-----

## CHAPTER X

THE BEGINNING OF LINCOLN.....	112
-------------------------------	-----

## CHAPTER XI

THE BEGINNING OF LINCOLN AND LANCASTER COUNTY,  
BY W. W. COX

BIRTH OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, BY CHARLES WAKE.....	117
--	-----

## CHAPTER XII

## LANCASTER AND LINCOLN LOT EXCHANGES

LOT EXCHANGE TABLE—UNSOLD LOTS, JANUARY 1, 1869—FIRST LOT PURCHASERS IN LINCOLN—EXPENSES OF SURVEYING LINCOLN—EXPENSES IN ADVERTISING— EXPENSES FOR AUCTION—COMMISSIONERS' ACCOUNTS.....	130
--	-----



CHAPTER XIII

THE PROGRESS OF LINCOLN AND HER UTILITIES

PAVEMENT—SEWERAGE—STREET CAR LINES—WATER, GAS AND ELECTRICITY— TELEPHONES—TELEGRAPH COMPANIES—EARLY EXPRESS COMPANIES—POLICE FORCE—FIRE DEPARTMENT .....	141
--	-----

CHAPTER XIV

GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN

CITY ORGANIZATION—FURTHER ELECTIONS—THE COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERN- MENT .....	153
--	-----

CHAPTER XV

LINCOLN BANKS AND BANKING.....	166
--------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XVI

THE PRESS OF LINCOLN.....	170
---------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XVII

THE LINCOLN POSTOFFICE.....	175
-----------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XVIII

THE LINCOLN LIBRARY.....	179
--------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XIX

THE SOCIAL SIDE OF LINCOLN.....	186
---------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER XX

MILITARY HISTORY OF LANCASTER COUNTY

ROSTER OF LANCASTER COUNTY SOLDIERS IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.....	197
--	-----

CHAPTER XXI

THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN LANCASTER COUNTY

EDUCATIONAL BEGINNINGS—UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA—UNION COLLEGE—COTNER UNIVERSITY—NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY—PUBLIC SCHOOLS—SMALL PERCENTAGE OF ILLITERACY—LINCOLN'S NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING—VOCA- TIONAL TRAINING IN LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—OTHER SCHOOLS—THE FIGHT FOR EXTENSION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY—COTNER UNIVERSITY AND BETH- ANY, BY J. Z. BRISCOE.....	217
---	-----

## CHAPTER XXII

## THE CHURCHES IN LINCOLN AND SUBURBS

METHODIST EPISCOPAL—PRESBYTERIAN—CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST—LUTHERAN CHURCHES—EVANGELICAL—BAPTIST—BRETHREN—UNITED BRETHREN—LATTER DAY SAINTS—HEBREW—REFORMED—NAZARENE—SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST—UNION CHURCH—EPISCOPAL—UNITARIAN—CATHOLIC—CHRISTIAN—CONGREGATIONAL—UNIVERSALIST—AN EARLY PASTOR'S STORY.....	242
---	-----

## CHAPTER XXIII

THE BENCH AND BAR OF LANCASTER COUNTY.....	267
--	-----

## CHAPTER XXIV

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.....	271
-----------------------------	-----

## CHAPTER XXV

THE INCARCERATION OF THE LINCOLN CITY COUNCIL, BY A. J. SAWYER.....	274
---	-----

## CHAPTER XXVI

THE STORY OF THE CRUSADE.....	294
-------------------------------	-----

## CHAPTER XXVII

THE RAILROADS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA.....	298
--	-----

## CHAPTER XXVIII

## LANCASTER COUNTY TOWNS

HAVELOCK — UNIVERSITY PLACE — BETHANY — COLLEGE VIEW — BENNETT — WAVERLY—FIRTH—ROCA—HICKMAN—OTHER LANCASTER COUNTY TOWNS..	301
--	-----

## CHAPTER XXIX

## STATE INSTITUTIONS

THE STATE PENITENTIARY—REVOLTS—THE STATE HOSPITAL—THE STATE FAIR..	314
--	-----

CHAPTER XXX

MISCELLANEOUS

BRIEF HAPPENINGS IN LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORY—LANCASTER COUNTY CENSUS—POPULATION OF INCORPORATED TOWNS—PAGEANTS—A PIONEER IN LINCOLN—ANIMALS IN EARLY LINCOLN—AN EARLY CLUB—HOTELS—FLOOD OF AUGUST, 1889—TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATIVES—LANCASTER COUNTY'S ONLY LYNCHING—CRIMINAL CASES—THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.....	319
--	-----

CHAPTER XXXI

REMINISCENCES .....	338
---------------------	-----



# Lincoln and Lancaster County

## CHAPTER I

### SOIL SURVEY OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

BY JAMES L. BURGESS AND E. L. WORTHEN  
(U. S. Department of Agriculture)

Lancaster County is situated in the southeastern part of the State of Nebraska, approximately fifty miles west of the Missouri River and about half way between the Platte River and the north boundary line of Kansas. Meridians of longitude  $96^{\circ} 40'$  west and latitude  $40^{\circ} 50'$  north intersect near Lincoln, which is located near the center of the county. The county is bounded on the north by Saunders County, on the east by Cass and Otoe counties, on the south by Gage, and on the west by Saline and Seward counties.

The surface of Lancaster County varies from gently rolling to rough and hilly. While the county lies wholly within the boundary of the Kansan drift, the glacial material is more pronounced in determining the surface configurations in the west half of the area, where glacial action and subsequent erosion have developed a broken topography. It is quite noticeable that the most irregular surface is found on the south sides of the streams flowing east. An exception is found in the case of the main channel of Salt Creek northeast of Lincoln, where the higher hills are on the north. The lowest point in the county is found where Salt Creek passes into Cass County, where the elevation is about eleven hundred feet above sea level. From this point the surface rises north, west, and south finally reaching an altitude of 1,500 feet in the southwestern part of the county along the divide between the Salt Creek basin and the valley of the Big Blue River. The general elevation of the county is about twelve hundred feet above tide.

Beginning in the southwest part of the county, at a point 1,500 feet high, there opens out toward the north and northeast an elliptical basin, with an average depth of probably two hundred feet. This basin makes a broad curve near Lincoln, turns to the northeast, and leaves the county a few miles east of Waverly. It is traversed throughout by Salt Creek and its tributaries, the most important of which are Rock Creek, Little Salt Creek, Oak Creek, Middle Creek, Haines Branch, Antelope Creek, Stevens Creek, and Dead Mans Run. Near Roca the main channel of Salt Creek divides into the south and west forks. A part of the drainage in the southern part of the county finds its way into Big Blue and Nemaha rivers, but the greater part is carried by Salt Creek into the Platte River.

The population of the county is practically all white and mostly native born, though a large percentage of the people, particularly in the rural communities, is of foreign extraction. The early settlers came to this country from Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and from various eastern states. The first settlement was made in 1856 on Salt Creek, about fifteen miles south of where Lincoln now stands. The county was organized in 1859, and the state capital was removed from Omaha to Lincoln in 1867.

The rural population is grouped roughly into settlements representing various nationalities. In the southern part of the county are the Germans, in the southeastern part the Hollanders, in the northeastern part the Swedes, and in the northwestern part the Irish. Except in the rough country around the headwaters of some of the western tributaries of Salt Creek, the rural population is fairly dense.

Lincoln, the most important city and the best immediate market in the county, is situated near the center of Salt Creek basin, and is one of the most important railroad centers in the state. There are a number of small towns in the county. These are composed generally of farmers who have collected together for church and educational advantages. These small places also serve as shipping points for the farmers. Crete, a town of three or four thousand inhabitants, is located only a short distance across the west boundary line of the county and affords a limited market for the farmers in the southwest section of the area.

The transportation facilities are excellent. The Burlington, the Union Pacific, the Rock Island, the Missouri Pacific, and the Northwestern railroad companies operate lines through the county and place it in direct connection with Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City, Denver, and other large cities.

#### CLIMATE

Lancaster County is situated wholly within the rain belt of the Mississippi Valley and has a moderately humid climate. The normal annual temperature is 50° Fahrenheit, the normal monthly temperature ranging from 22° in January to 76° in July. The average annual rainfall is about twenty-seven inches, most of which occurs during the growing season, from March to October.

While this area possesses a mild climate for about eight months in the year and a rainfall well distributed throughout the season of plant growth, still it is subject to those occasional extremes of temperature that may be expected to pass over the upper Mississippi Valley, especially the western part, once in every five or ten years. The winters sometimes become so severe that the less hardy perennials are frozen, while, on the other hand, the crops may fail now and then from drought, accompanied by hot, dry southwesterly winds. The years 1894 and 1901 were noted for continued and destructive droughts. During July and August of these years the soil became greatly heated, being more than 72° at a depth of thirty-six inches below the surface. While these years were most destructive of crops, it frequently happens that some part of the growing season has insufficient rainfall. The corn crop may be injured during the early summer, or the wheat, and especially the oat crop, may be cut short by prolonged dry periods during the spring, as in 1906. In any case the damaging effects of

deficient rainfall in this area may be largely offset by improved cultural methods, which will be discussed later in this report.

#### AGRICULTURE

The first settlers came to this part of the state in 1856, when the area within the present limits of the county was all virgin prairie. They were molested by the Indians until 1864, when the Government succeeded in confining the latter to their respective reservations.

The first settlement was small and quite isolated, but in 1859 the overland trail from the East to the West was changed from Ashland to a more direct route through this territory. The colony was thus brought into more prominence, and the population increased rapidly.

It was not thought at first that spring wheat would be profitable or that winter wheat would stand the climate in this latitude, consequently only corn and flax were grown prior to 1870. Corn was and has since remained the principal crop in the county. Flax was found to be quite a remunerative crop on virgin soil, but when the land became older the yields were small, and finally, in the early '80s, the land became so infested with noxious weeds that the cultivation of this crop in any quantity was abandoned.

In 1870 an agricultural society was organized "for the development of agriculture along all lines suited to this latitude" and for the development of mechanic arts. It was about this time that the farmers began to test the possibility of wheat production. The first variety tested was known as "tea" wheat, so called from having been found in a package of tea imported from China. This was grown for several years as a spring wheat, but was finally superseded by another called "grass" wheat. This "grass" wheat was grown for a number of years also as a spring wheat, but about 1888 the farmers by accident discovered that this could be grown as winter wheat, and from that date the growing of winter wheat gained some importance. The production of winter wheat in this area, however, received its greatest impetus when the state experiment station demonstrated the value of certain varieties from Russia and Turkey. From 1890 to 1898 hemp was grown in the bottom lands along Salt Creek, its discontinuance being due to a change of ownership of the lands on which it was grown.

The only serious difficulties the farmers of this area have encountered were the grasshopper pest in 1874 and the droughts that occurred in 1894 and 1901.

The implements used in the early agriculture were those for breaking and pulverizing the sod. Then came the check-row corn planter, the gang plow, the disk harrow, and other modern implements suited to the agriculture of the area, the lister being introduced in the latter '80s. This implement plows the land and plants the corn in one operation, and its labor-saving merits at once recommended it to the farmers, especially to those who were tenants and desired to farm very extensively. Not only among the tenants, but also among those farmers who own the land, has the use of the lister become quite general. Recently, however, the more progressive landowners have begun to doubt the efficiency of the lister on the soils of this county, recognizing that while it may save much labor it frequently causes a shortage in crop yields and is always prejudicial to the maintenance of productiveness, thus decreasing the intrinsic

value of their lands. All the implements used are such as are suited to general agriculture. There is little or no intensive farming done and only a very limited number of stock raised, the principal products being corn, wheat and oats.

Corn, oats, emmer (sometimes incorrectly called spelt) and sugar beets are planted in April and May, a period during which a relatively large proportion of the rainfall is likely to occur. This rainfall coming when the land is without vegetation is usually attended with serious washing, especially on rolling fields where a series of trenches has been made by the lister in planting the corn crop. Indeed, all the soils in the area except that found in the bottoms are very susceptible to erosion, and during the season of planting care should be taken to put the soil in a condition to hold the utmost amount of moisture. This is important both for future plant growth and for protecting the soil.

The crops are harvested from July to October. Those harvested in July are likely to suffer some damage from heavy rains, while those harvested in October and November are not generally in danger from too much moisture.

General grain farming has always absorbed the interest of the farmer in this county. Corn is the most important crop and, until recent years, when the experiment station made an effort to introduce some diversification in the farm practice of the state, corn was practically the only money crop grown. Corn and wheat are now both put on the market, but oats are not considered in the present economy except for home consumption. Nearly all the grain is sold from the farm, only a very limited number of hogs and cattle being fed for market. There is a large acreage in wild grass, the amount of land devoted to this kind of forage ranking next to that seeded to oats. The acreages in alfalfa and clover are about equal. The millets are grown to some extent. Sugar beets, macaroni wheat, and emmer are comparatively new crops in this area. Sugar beets and emmer are worthy of extended cultivation.

While practically all the staple crops of the area are grown on every farm regardless of soil type, the farmers, nevertheless, recognize that the soils in the eastern half of the county are richer and better adapted to corn and wheat than the soils in the western half, where the glacial drift affects both the topography and soil composition. In the western half of the county as a general rule the lands are in wild grasses, while little or no land is in virgin sod in the eastern half, except in close proximity to some of the streams. The heavy soil in the east half of the county is well suited to clover and alfalfa, as well as to the cultivated grasses.

Perhaps the necessity of crop rotation receives the least attention of any factor entering into the economy of farm practice in this area. The present system of cropping follows corn with oats, and oats with wheat when any rotation at all is practiced, but on many farms corn follows corn for years in succession. When a change is made oats are sown in the spring on "stalk" land, and the oat stubble is plowed in the fall for the succeeding winter-wheat crop. Clover and alfalfa fields are seldom seen in the area, hence no rotation looking to the maintenance of soil fertility is practiced in general. The barnyard manure is frequently wasted, notwithstanding the soil is often in serious need of it.

The soils and the climatic and market conditions in this area suggest certain specific methods of farm practice which no farmer in the county can afford to ignore. The soils have such physical qualities that moisture enters slowly and



escapes by evaporation very rapidly during the hot summer months. The farmers in general do not plow the land deeply, and hence limit the amount of moisture the soil can hold. The surface is generally quite rolling, sometimes hilly, and requires deep plowing and in certain places terracing to prevent erosion; but the general rule is to put the corn crop in with the lister, and by so doing reduce the surface of these rolling fields to a series of ditches, while the space between the rows is rarely broken deeper than the tooth of the cultivator runs. By this method of listing the surface soil is rapidly decreasing in depth because of erosion. The nature of the soil and the climatic conditions make it imperative that every effort should be made to conserve moisture, yet the methods of soil management allow great quantities of the annual precipitation to escape by evaporation. By listing the land about 25 per cent more surface is exposed to the sun's rays than would be exposed should this surface remain level; moreover, the use of the lister precludes the possibility of surface mulching, which is of extreme importance in the early spring, when the seed is germinating and when a few days of drought may greatly reduce the stand.

Most of the labor is performed by the farmer and his family. Some of the farmers employ one or two hired men, but the price of labor is high, owing to the demand for laborers in the city and on the railroads. Farmers say they can afford to pay as much as \$25 a month the year round for good men, but there seems to be no supply at this rate.

According to the census of 1900, of 555,520 acres of land in this county about 92 per cent is in farms and about 80 per cent of the entire area is improved. According to the same authority not more than 39 per cent of the farms are operated by the owners. The tenant system is thus seen to play an important part in the agricultural practice of this area.

By reason of the location near the principal city of the state, the land in the county brings a high price. Land is generally worth more in the east than in the west half of the area owing to the differences in agricultural value. The prices range from \$50 to \$150 an acre. The prevailing practice of letting the farms to tenants, who can have only a temporary interest in the land, is said to be rapidly reducing the value of the farms. There is a serious need for a definite agreement between the landlord and the tenant by which the tenant could be assured of remaining on the farm for a definite number of years and thus be able to plan his operations for some years ahead. This agreement should secure to the landlord a certain method of farm practice by his tenant, through which the productiveness of the soil would be maintained or increased.

At present leguminous crops are grown only to a very limited extent, while the character of the soil throughout the county is such as to make their use imperative. The conditions in the area suggest the importance of an increased interest in dairying and in the production of live stock. The productivity of the soils should be carefully maintained by the use of farm manure, which at present is frequently allowed to go to waste. The use of the lister, except where land has first been plowed, should be abandoned. Plowing should always be done with a view of conserving the rainfall and preventing soil erosion. The present rotation on many of the farms should be changed. Wheat should follow corn, and oats should follow wheat, in order to get larger yields of each crop. In every system of farming the rotation should include some leguminous crop, and on every

farm at least a limited number of stock should be kept to make use of the forage and to increase the supply of barnyard manure.

#### SOILS

There are four distinct superficial geological formations in Lancaster County, and each gives rise to a distinct type of soil. In the order of their areal extent these formations are the loess of the Middle Pleistocene period, the Kansan drift belonging to the early Pleistocene period, the most recent alluvium occupying the lower levels along the streams, and the Dakota formation, a ferruginous sandstone outcropping around the base of some of the steeper slopes.

The Kansan drift underlies the surface of the county generally and has a marked influence on the soils. This material is being gradually uncovered by erosion, and in the west half of the county the soil type derived from it covers a large percentage of the area. In the east half this glacial material is deeply covered and comes to the surface only occasionally, being found in ravines and in the vicinity of some of the larger streams. The loessial material appears at one time to have covered the surface of the whole county, but the agencies of erosion have removed the greater part of it from the surface in the western part of the county, where at present it is found capping knolls, skirting the bases of slopes, and occupying the crests of stream divides. The great body of the loess is found in the east half of the area, where, though eroded badly, the stratum is seldom cut through to the glacial material below. The loessial deposit and the Kansan drift merge into each other and sometimes make it difficult to define the boundaries of the resulting soil types.

The Dakota formation is found in the deeper ravines and in places where the overlying formations have been removed by erosion. Here is exposed almost pure gray sand, which is usually cemented on the immediate surface by ferruginous material, while below this the sand is in a semi-consolidated condition and is easily broken down between the thumb and finger. This material comes to the surface over a limited area and affects only a small percentage of the soils.

The recent alluvium is found along the streams throughout the county and gives rise to one of the most important soil types in the area. In areal extent it ranks next to the Kansan drift.

All the soils of the area have a brown to dark brown color, and are generally productive, the least valuable being that derived from the Dakota sandstone. The upland soils contain a comparatively large amount of humus at present, but this element is rapidly decreasing, owing to general grain farming and the limited use of farm manures.

As stated the surface material of this area has been classified into four distinct types of soil. In the order of their extent these are: the Marshall silt loam, Marshall loam, Wabash silt loam and the Lancaster fine sandy loam. The first two belong to the Marshall series of soils, so widely developed in this and other middle and northwestern states. The Wabash silt loam belongs to the Wabash series of soils, which have a large development in the Mississippi and Missouri bottoms.

The Marshall soils are derived from transported loessial and drift material; the Lancaster fine sandy loam has been formed in place from the weathering of

the underlying sandstone, and the Wabash silt loam represents the alluvium which is derived from the wash of the surrounding higher lands.

#### MARSHALL SILT LOAM

The Marshall silt loam is the most important soil type in the area. The soil is variable in depth, ranging usually from ten to fifteen and sometimes having a depth of 20 inches, depending upon the topographic position. The more shallow places are found where the land has been under cultivation for several years and erosion has removed much of the surface soil to lower levels. Where the surface has remained unbroken and covered with vegetation, the soil is quite as deep on the slopes as on the more level areas. The color of the soil varies, but is prevalently brown to dark brown, the shade depending on the quantity of organic matter present. The color gradually becomes lighter the longer the soil is cultivated without the addition of farm manures. This soil is composed largely of silt, with varying amounts of clay and very fine sand. In its original state the particles are so arranged, being influenced by the content of humus, lime, and soluble salts, as to give the soil, when plowed, a rather open and porous structure. By reason of this structure the type is easily cultivated and may be kept in good tilth at comparatively small cost. Only when plowed too wet does this soil puddle. Where this takes place it may require the process of weathering for a whole year to regain a proper physical condition.

The subsoil of the Marshall silt loam may be discussed in two divisions. Immediately beneath the soil is a dark-brown stratum, varying from eight to fifteen inches in thickness, which carries a percentage of clay sufficient to give the texture of a heavy silty clay. Below this heavy material the subsoil becomes relatively light in texture and has a yellow color. Throughout the deeper subsoil small lime concretions are much in evidence, and sections exposed in excavations reveal vertical fissures and numerous small holes through which plant roots have grown. The deeper subsoil of this type is thus seen to be quite porous and comparatively dry, and has been affected very little by weathering. The whole geological body from which this type is derived is proverbially dry and all wells sunk in it must penetrate the light sandy stratum below before water is reached.

The Marshall silt loam is derived from the weathering of the loess. During the process of weathering some of the finer particles, such as the fine silt and clay, have been carried in suspension from the surface and deposited at lower levels, and thus the surface soil has become gradually lighter. This type carries small quantities of soluble salts near the base of slopes and at other points where water accumulates and where capillarity and evaporation combine to concentrate these salts.

The greater part of this type is located in the east half of the county, where it is the dominant soil. There is quite an important area in the southern and southwestern parts of the survey, and at various other points there are small patches and narrow strips around the base of slopes and along the interstream divides.

The surface of the type is gently to heavily rolling. In the extreme southern part of the county there are several square miles that are nearly level. This is along the main divide between the Big Blue River Valley and the Salt Creek basin.

There are other level areas at various places in the Salt Creek basin, but with these exceptions all the type has sufficient relief for excellent drainage.

There is a phase of the Marshall silt loam developed in ravines and on some of the slopes where the soil is quite shallow, having been eroded away. The heavy subsoil comes near the surface and causes trouble in the preparation of the seed bed and the subsequent cultivation of the crops. The farmers find that when the surrounding soil is in prime condition for plowing these heavy spots are too wet, and if plowed at such times they puddle and remain out of condition all the growing season. On the other hand, when these heavy spots are in good condition for plowing, the surrounding soil is much too dry. These heavy spots are called "gumbo spots" by the farmers. Their low productiveness is thought to be due to the presence of alkali salts, but chemical analysis shows no appreciable excess. The lack of humus, therefore, and the poor physical condition appear to be mainly responsible for the poor crop yields obtained. Deep plowing, subsoiling, and heavy manuring will eventually ameliorate these conditions. It would be a good practice for the farmers to place straw on these heavy spots and allow it to rot down and then plow it under deeply.

The native vegetation peculiar to the Marshall silt loam includes the usual grasses of the prairie, together with various herbaceous plants, many of which belong to the family Leguminosæ. Under cultivation this type is productive for corn and wheat. It is the great upland corn soil of the Mississippi Valley. It is also well adapted to sugar beets and other root crops. In growing these deep-rooted annuals subsoiling will be found necessary in the preparation of the seed bed, in order to secure the most satisfactory yields. This soil is also well suited to the production of alfalfa, clover, and many of the tame grasses, such as timothy, orchard, brome, blue, fescue, and other species that thrive on a medium heavy soil. Oats and emmer do well when arranged in rotation with corn, wheat, and clover.

The crops grown at present are corn, wheat, and oats, the most important of which is corn. The yield of corn may vary from 15 to 50 bushels, depending on the season and methods of farming. A general average would be about 30 bushels per acre. Wheat yields from 10 to 35 bushels, with a general average of about 12 bushels per acre. Oats run about the same as wheat. The relative low yield of the latter is due in part to sowing in the spring when there is very likely to be a few weeks of drought, which cuts the crop short or sometimes even destroys it. Clover and alfalfa make fair yields, and the grasses do well.

The Marshall silt loam is capable, under proper management, of holding a very large supply of water, and the annual precipitation is generally sufficient for crop production. Yet it frequently happens that the crops are cut short by drought, although the annual rainfall has been ample. An examination of the topographic and mechanical features of this soil reveals some of the causes of crop failure and indicates why the yields on this type, as at present managed, are not as large as would be expected from a study of this soil in other areas. First, the surface is rolling to hilly and rain water soon finds its way into the streams. Second, the subsoil carries a heavy stratum just beneath the soil which retards or prevents the percolation of the rain water to the lower subsoil. Third, the soil is of such color that it absorbs heat readily and the moisture is lost very rapidly by evaporation. The latter tendency is very much accelerated by the hot, dry

winds from the southwest that frequently come just after a rain and rapidly induce the inadequate supply of moisture retained by the soil. The crops thus need rain every few days during the growing season to prevent injury from drought. The usual practice is to plow shallow, say a depth of two or three inches, or else to put the corn crop in with the lister and not plow the land at all but reduce the fields to a series of ridges and ditches, thus exposing more surface to evaporation and increasing the tendency to erosion, as well as quickening the drainage of the surface water to the lowlands.

In view of these conditions it is of more than ordinary importance that special care be taken to catch and retain as much of the rainfall as possible in the subsoil for use of the crops during the period of dryness. Deeper plowing, in some cases subsoiling, during the fall season, followed in the early spring and as often during the summer as practicable by surface mulching, will be found to better the moisture conditions materially. This surface mulching is very important in the production of wheat. The wheat fields should be thoroughly harrowed early in the spring, provided the plants have stood out well in the fall, and this should be repeated as often as necessary, the condition of the plants permitting, to keep a crust from forming. The land intended for oats should be fall plowed and disked early in the spring as long as possible before the crop is put in. After the crop is planted and before it comes up the land may be mulched again if moisture conditions warrant it.

Perhaps the best rotation for this type of soil in this area is that suggested by Hunt for similar soils in this latitude; namely, corn two years, wheat one year, and clover and timothy three years. It is thought that such a rotation would minimize the losses due to the "cornstalk disease" in cattle grazed in the stalk fields.

The Marshall silt loam is the highest priced soil in the country and has a greater crop value than any of the other upland soils.

#### MARSHALL LOAM

The Marshall loam is second in area of the upland soils. The texture of the surface soil is loamy. Material of all grades from clay to gravel and pebbles enters into its composition. Lime concretions are usually plentiful and huge bowlders are of frequent occurrence. The soil is generally open in structure, but like the Marshall silt loam, it has a heavy substratum that must be broken up before the best physical conditions can be secured. The color of the soil is usually brown to dark brown or with occasionally an area that is dark reddish brown, and in general the longer a field is cultivated the lighter the color of the soil becomes. In depth it ranges from ten to fifteen inches, with a general average of about twelve inches, though in local areas the surface is washed so badly that nearly all the soil has been removed. The composition of the subsoil is generally quite variable. Sometimes it is a mass of sand and gravel; again it may be composed of heavy bowlder clay. The color of the subsoil is generally yellow to reddish yellow and gray. This type, on the whole, because of its more open structure of subsoil, has a relatively lower water holding capacity than the Marshall silt loam.

On account of the heterogeneous composition, the Marshall silt loam is not

always easily cultivated. Sometimes the heavy subsoil comes near the surface and gives rise to what the farmers term "gumbo."

Many fields must be cleared of stones before machinery can be used. A large percentage of the type, however, is clear of rocks of objectionable size and can be farmed with comparative ease.

The greater part of this type is found in the west half of the county and it is typically developed around the headwaters of Salt Creek and its principal tributaries. It generally occupies the high rolling lands south of these streams and the areas generally slope to the north. A notable exception to this rule is found east and north of Raymond, where the slope is to the south, agreeing with the direction of the drainage channels. This soil is nearly always found on the lower slopes, and occupies a position between the crests of the divides and the bottom lands along the streams. There is a large development of the type southwest of Lincoln, in the neighborhood of Sprague, Denton and Berks. There is another large area north and east of Raymond. Other but smaller areas are scattered here and there over the county, following lines of greatest erosive action.

The surface of this type is heavily rolling to rough and hilly, and is so badly dissected in places, notably south of Sprague, Denton and near Raymond, as to render it worthless except for pasture and meadow. The drainage is very good.

The Marshall loam is derived from the weathering of glacial material belonging to the Kansan epoch. The surface ten to twelve inches has been changed through weathering to a material of lighter composition than the substratum. The color has been changed by oxidation and plant growth from a buff to a dark-brown color. This drift material is quite old, as shown by the weathered condition of the glacial boulders found in it. These boulders are fragments of granite, gneiss, trap, and Sioux quartzite. All but the last named are in an advanced stage of weathering, many of the granite boulders now falling to pieces.

The native vegetation of the Marshall loam consists almost entirely of grasses and herbaceous plants. There appear to be more leguminous plants on this than on any other soil in the area. Among the more important may be mentioned the wild licorice (*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*),<sup>1</sup> the beggar tick (*Mibomia illinoensis*), the partridge pea or wild senna (*Cassia chamaecrista*), the white thimble weed (*Psoralea argophylla*), the wild indigo (*Baptisia bractata*), and *Parasela delea*. There are more than 30 species of leguminous plants growing wild in this area and perhaps two-thirds of them are indigenous to this type of soil.

The Marshall loam produces good yields of corn, wheat, and oats, but in all probability it is better adapted to the production of oats, emmer, and some of the durum wheats. The soil is generally too light and droughty for the best yields of winter wheat. A large percentage of this type would be more remunerative if seeded to alfalfa and clover and stock raising introduced to take place of grain farming. A large proportion of it will never be valuable for general agricultural purposes. The average yield of corn is about twenty bushels and of wheat about ten bushels per acre. The yields frequently run very low, owing partly to climatic and partly to cultural conditions.

Shallow plowing and listing are generally practiced on this type. These methods increase erosion and limit the amount of water in the soil reservoir, and

<sup>1</sup> Identified by Dr. Charles E. Bessey.

the crop yields are affected accordingly. The lister is especially out of place on this soil, since the surface washes badly even under the best methods of soil management. The farmers who own this land are beginning to realize this and are using the lister less than formerly. These rolling lands when cultivated at all should be plowed deeply, so that the heavy rains, instead of running off the surface, may soak down into the subsoil. All the draws should be left to grass over and, where the liability to erosion is very great, terracing would be advisable to direct the surplus waters into the grassy draws. Much of this land should be left in permanent meadows or plowed up and put in alfalfa.

This type of soil is of less intrinsic value and brings a lower price in the market than the Marshall silt loam. It ranges in price from about twenty-five dollars to fifty dollars an acre, depending on location and improvements.

#### WABASH SILT LOAM

The texture of the soil of the Wabash silt loam varies considerably. In some places where the Marshall loam is the adjacent type it is rather sandy, and again where deposition has occurred from comparatively still water the proportion of clay is greater. The soil is stratified, and silty, clayey, and sandy layers are found to occur alternately. It contains much organic matter, which renders its structure open and porous, except where clayey material predominates. It is generally dark brown to black in color, with here and there a gray phase, due sometimes to the presence of alkali. The surface soil is very deep, ranging from fifteen to forty inches, with a general average of about twenty inches. It is generally easy to cultivate, the worst trouble being the rapidity with which weeds and grasses grow.

The Wabash silt loam forms the bottoms along the principal streams, occurring in areas from a few rods to more than two miles in width. The surface is generally level, but some depressed areas are found along Salt Creek. There are some small island-like areas of Marshall silt loam rising above the lowlands northeast of Lincoln. These mesalike elevations appear to have been caused by the shifting of the stream channel and by the general wearing down of Salt Creek basin; areas better protected by vegetation or position with relation to currents have resisted leveling by erosion.

The whole of this type has a general slope of perhaps ten feet to the mile except that found along Rock Creek, where the slope is not so great. This rapid fall has caused both Salt Creek and its tributaries to cut their channels several feet below the surrounding bottom land, which when the streams are normal lies from ten to twenty feet or more above the water level. Nevertheless the streams tend to wind in their courses and loops, oxbows, and abandoned channels are of frequent occurrence.

Salt Creek and its tributaries drain not only most of the area of Lancaster County, but a vast area outside of the county to the west and northwest. All of this drainage, except that carried by Rock Creek, enters the main channel of Salt Creek near the City of Lincoln. Here sometimes the water accumulates in such floods that all the bottom land is submerged, as, for instance, during the year (1906), and boats take the place of vehicles. During these freshets much farm and some city property is destroyed. There appears to be no prac-

ticable way of controlling these flood waters, though in some cases diking might be found worth while. With the exception of the floods most of this soil is very well drained, and much of it is under cultivation. There are some flat areas near Lincoln and, generally, where the larger tributaries enter Salt Creek that require tiling and in some cases open ditches. The drainage of these areas is feasible, since the stream channels are all deep enough to allow a sufficient fall in the drains.

The Wabash silt loam is alluvial in origin and is composed of the wash from the surrounding soil types. Little or no weathering is required to make this soil productive, since it is not only composed of the most available plant-food materials of the upland soils, but it receives a new and fresh supply of these at every flood. This type carries a small amount of alkali. The native vegetation consists of various lowland grasses, herbaceous plants, and trees. The most important trees are the willow, box elder, walnut, ash, and cottonwood. The trees usually are found near the streams.

The Wabash silt loam is the best corn and wheat soil in the county. Its water table is generally less than 10 feet below the surface, and capillarity works very advantageously in bringing the moisture within the zone of root action. Barring the liability to floods, this soil is well adapted to the production of sugar beets, clover, alfalfa, and the tame grasses, though alfalfa should not be expected to do well where the water table is less than five or six feet from the surface. Corn is not so likely to be damaged by floods if planted early, and wheat should be seeded early enough in the fall to give it a good start and hasten its maturity in the spring. The crops grown are corn and wheat. The former yields from thirty to sixty bushels, with a general average of about forty bushels per acre. Wheat will generally produce from twenty to forty bushels, with an average of about twenty-five bushels per acre.

There is perhaps less necessity for care in the conservation of moisture in the cultivation of this soil than with any other type in the county, but even in this rich alluvium moderately deep plowing and surface mulching are necessary for the best results. The various weeds and grasses grow with great rapidity, and frequent mulching not only conserves moisture, but serves to destroy germinating weeds and grasses. These troublesome weeds must be dealt with each year, since the seeds are brought down by the floods and scattered over the farms, and the highest yields of corn and other cultivated crops can be secured only at the expense of much labor. Though this soil is subject to annual inundation, its crop value is so great in favorable seasons that its market price is always high, generally ranging from fifty to one hundred dollars an acre.

#### LANCASTER FINE SANDY LOAM

This type is the least extensive found in the county. The soil is quite sandy, being composed of medium to fine sand with a slight admixture of silt blown over it from the surrounding heavier types. The structure is open and porous. The soil is generally of a dark brown color, from ten to fifteen inches deep, with a general average of about twelve inches, and is very easily cultivated. The subsoil is composed of medium to fine sand or sandy loam of a yellow to gray color. At a depth of about twenty-five inches there is sometimes found a stratum of rather



heavy silt material about five inches in thickness that aids in the conservation of soil moisture.

The Lancaster fine sandy loam is found in various parts of the northern half of the county. A small area skirts the bluffs along Salt Creek south of Lincoln, another larger area occurs two or three miles north of the city, and at several other points in the northeastern part of the county are found small patches of this sandy material. The surface of this type is rolling and sometimes quite precipitous. It is always well drained.

The Lancaster fine sandy loam is derived for the most part from weathered sandstone of the Dakota group. This material outcrops in some of the deeper ravines where the overlying formations have been removed from the surface. There is one place just north of Lincoln where the sandy material appears to have been an outwash from the glacier, but with this doubtful exception there can be no mistake concerning the origin of the type. The sandstone, when found in the ledge, has a brown to gray color and is only loosely consolidated, breaking down easily between the thumb and finger. After it has been weathered for some time the color changes to a reddish-brown and there results a ferruginous sandy soil.

The limited extent of the type in this area and its occurrence in spots and patches make it difficult to determine its relative crop value. It is, however, much below that of any of the other types for general crops. Where favorably located it would be well to grow early vegetables on it, because its sandy, loose nature makes it more suitable to truck than to general farm crops.

The following table gives the results of mechanical analyses of this soil:

MECHANICAL ANALYSES OF LANCASTER FINE SANDY LOAM

Number	Description	Fine gravel Per cent	Coarse sand Per cent	Medium sand Per cent	Fine sand Per cent	Very fine sand Per cent	Silt Per cent	Clay Per cent
15948....	Soil.....	0.0	2.6	12.8	43.7	5.4	21.8	13.2
15949....	Subsoil.....	.0	5.0	17.5	40.3	3.1	23.7	10.7

## ALKALI

The farmers of this area frequently find in their fields local spots and patches of heavy gray to dark-gray material that gives them much trouble in the cultivation of their crops. These local areas are called "gumbo," and are caused by the subsoil coming to the surface in badly eroded places. The cause of these spots is lack of humus and poor physical condition, but there is a popular notion that their refractory nature is due to an excess of soluble salts or alkali. In order to substantiate or disprove this theory, some of the worst places were sampled and chemical analyses made to determine the salt content.

These analyses did not show enough water soluble salts to justify a complete chemical analysis, slightly more than one-half of 1 per cent magnesium oxide, the salt which is thought to cause the trouble in these upland soils. So small a quantity is not enough to injure crops or markedly to affect the physical condition of the soil. These spots are generally found in the Marshall silt loam and the Marshall loam, and in the latter type they may sometimes carry an excess of salts, but the probability is that no serious trouble has ever arisen from this

cause. As has been stated elsewhere, these heavy areas may be improved by heavy applications of coarse manure and deep plowing.

While little or no alkali is found in the upland soils, there is a considerable quantity in the Wabash silt loam, mainly compounds of sodium, magnesium, potassium, and calcium. The most prominent alkali areas in this bottom-land soil are found near the junction of Little Salt, Oak, Middle, and Haines creeks with the main channel of Salt Creek. These areas are at once recognized either by the white incrustations of alkali or the otherwise barren surface, or by the well-known salt grass that thrives in soils saturated with alkaline solutions. These areas are generally low and too wet for cultivation.

As stated, these alkali spots occur wherever the large tributaries enter Salt Creek. It is notable that the tributaries mentioned are fed by waters that either leach out of or pass over the largest area of the glacial drift in the western and northern parts of the county. It is quite probable, therefore, that most of these soluble salts have come from the leachings from this ground-up glacial drift.

A small percentage of the Wabash silt loam is abandoned because of the alkali, and these small areas are outlined and designated as "salt flats" on the soil map, because the conditions did not justify the preparation of a separate alkali map. As elsewhere explained, the conditions of the streams make drainage in these bottom lands quite feasible, and drainage will in all probability reclaim these flats from their alkali condition.

#### SUMMARY

Lancaster County is situated in the southeastern part of the state. The surface is rolling to rough and hilly, with a general elevation of 1,200 feet above sea level. The general slope is to the northeast, and the drainage is effected through Salt Creek and its tributaries.

The area has a moderately humid climate, but is subject occasionally to severe droughts. It has excellent railroad facilities, and good markets are within easy reach of all parts of the county.

The agriculture of the area dates from 1856 and has almost always been along the line of general grain farming. Stock is raised only in a very limited way, and most of the grain is sold from the farm. There is serious need of a mixed husbandry in which leguminous crops are grown and special attention directed to stock raising, especially hogs, and to dairying.

The principal crops grown are corn, wheat, and oats, and these have been the most important since about 1888, prior to which date flax constituted a principal crop. The tenant system is an important factor in the farm practice in this area, and this, together with a too general use of the lister, has caused the productiveness of farm lands to deteriorate.

There are four types of soil found in this area. The Marshall silt loam and the Marshall loam represent the Marshall series, and the Wabash silt loam the Wabash series. The Lancaster fine sandy loam is associated with the Marshall series, but is not yet referred to any series.

The Marshall silt loam is well adapted to corn, wheat, oats, sugar beets, alfalfa, clover, and the grasses, while the Marshall loam is a heavier soil and is probably better suited to the production of durum wheats, oats, alfalfa, and some

of the wild grasses. The Wabash silt loam is a very good corn and wheat soil, but is subject to annual inundations. The Lancaster fine sandy loam is too limited in extent to permit of a very detailed study, but where favorably situated will produce early truck better than any other type in the county. In the cultivation of the Marshall soils the conservation of moisture is a prime requisite to successful agriculture. In the Marshall soils there occurs a phase here and there known as "gumbo" that gives trouble in cultivating the farms, but by deep plowing and applying coarse manures these heavy spots can be made to disappear.

The adaptation of the Marshall silt loam to the production of sugar beets justifies a more extended interest in the beet-sugar industry in this county. More alfalfa should be grown, and a definite rotation of crops should supersede the present method of planting the same fields to corn for years in succession. Finally, the use of the lister should be largely abandoned, and the plowing of the land should be insisted upon by every land owner in the area.

## CHAPTER II

### EARLY SETTLEMENT OF LANCASTER COUNTY

#### THE PREY FAMILY

The first permanent white settler in what is now the County of Lancaster was John D. Prey. Mr. Prey was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 4th of December, 1798; during the first days of his life much of his time was spent in Ireland. He was the son of John and Martha (Little) Prey. Before coming to the shores of America John D. Prey was wedded to Miss Margaret Gibson, born near Belfast, Ireland, of Scottish parents. After 1½ months upon the Atlantic Ocean Mr. and Mrs. Prey first touched the American continent at St. Johns, New Brunswick, and from there proceeded to the City of Boston, there living for quite a time. Then they located near Syracuse, New York, where they stayed for several years. In 1843 the Prey family emigrated to Wisconsin, their last stopping point before coming to Nebraska. It was in the spring of 1856 that John D. Prey and his son, John W., started for the Nebraska Territory, to investigate the country and incidentally look for claims. They had been attracted by the stories told of the new country and were anxious to find a spot where they could locate permanently and there rear the family of children. On the day of June 15, 1856, they reached a site on Salt Creek, approximately three miles from the present City of Lincoln; they went up this river until they reached a point which is now between the towns of Roca and Sprague and there took up claims for themselves, also three other sons. On July 26, 1856, the remainder of the Prey family joined them. Their first effort was to construct rude log cabins and to settle themselves before the hard winter came upon them; this they soon accomplished. A supply of provisions had been hauled from Nebraska City and by the time the first snow came in December they were well fixed and had nothing to fear. The spring came in good time and the Preys immediately put in their crops; very little corn was raised this year, but by 1858 they had a large crop planted. Mr. and Mrs. Prey lived on their farm until the former's death on September 17, 1873; Mrs. Prey followed him in the month of January, 1880. Both are buried in the Centreville Cemetery. Mr. and Mrs. Prey were the parents of twelve children, namely: Gilbert G., August 12, 1822; Jane, May 14, 1824; Thomas R., February 13, 1826; John W., May 11, 1828; William L., October 10, 1830; Margaret, February 14, 1833; Mary Elizabeth, January 30, 1835; James, June 11, 1838; Julia Ann, March 11, 1840; David Ely, June 5, 1842; Rebecca, November 19, 1845; and George W., September 18, 1849.

## OTHER SETTLEMENTS

It has been said, and written, that while en route to the salt basins and across the country from Plattsmouth the Preys met three men, named Whitmore, Cardwell and Therpe, who were returning from Salt Creek where they had staked out claims with which they intended to speculate; they were from Plattsmouth. They probably belonged to that notorious class of men which followed the frontier for personal gain and which included speculators, claim-jumpers, squatters and land-grabbers. Their ilk became numerous in the vicinity of Salt Creek, but in time, when the number of honest and purposeful settlers increased, their faces disappeared. There had been no surveying accomplished in this part of the country at that time, nor was there a land office until 1857, when one was established at Nebraska City. Then a portion of Lancaster County was surveyed.

Shortly after the Prey family had settled; to be exact, in the next year, other settlers began to come to the valley of the Salt Creek and open up claims. The names of J. L. Davidson, W. W. Dunham, James Eatherton, Jeremiah B. Garrett, J. C. Bristol, Solomon Kirke, William Arnold, Ogden Clegg, the Bogue brothers, Weeks, Haskins, and Palmer were familiar among these early comers. In 1857, also, settlements were made along the upper Salt, in the vicinity of Hickman and Saltillo; this was, however, at the time a part of old Clay County, which county was not eradicated until 1864.

John Dee was an early settler on lower Salt Creek, near the present site of the town of Waverly. In a history of the county published in 1889 it is claimed that Dee disputed the honor of being the first white settler with John D. Prey, but this question must be decided in favor of the latter, as Dee did not come until 1857. In November, 1857, Dee was joined by Daniel Harrington, James Cardwell and Abraham Beals; and in the spring of 1858 James Moran, John P. and L. J. Loder and Michael Shea appeared in the locality.

In the autumn of 1857 A. J. Wallingford and his brother, Richard, located on Salt Creek between what are now the sites of Lincoln and Saltillo. Also, in the same year, William Shirley, Joseph Brown and Mr. Bottsford located on Stevens Creek in the eastern part of the county. They were joined shortly by the following: J. D. Main, C. F. Retzlaff, John Lemp, Aaron Wood, and others. In the same year Festus Reed, Jeremiah Showalter and Joel Mason settled north of the Wallingford claim and John Cadman, John Hilton and several others located near Saltillo. In 1859 Robert Farmer, J. J. Forest and Joseph Gilmore located in the Camp Creek settlement to the north. Silas Pratt, the Crawford family, Mrs. White and her son, C. C. White, and John Moore located on Oak Creek, twelve miles northwest of Lincoln, in the early '60s and were joined soon after by John Tullis. Other settlers were: L. N. Haskin, George A. Mayer, W. E. Keys, E. G. Keys, J. S. Gregory, John Michael, M. Spay, J. A. Snyder, E. Warnes, W. A. Cadman, W. E. Stewart, Oren Snyder, Solomon Kirk and Dr. Wesley Queen. Many others who are not mentioned in this connection were early settlers, but as their advent has to do directly with the early settlement of Lincoln and the other towns, their story is reserved for the chapters treating the same.

The first white child born in Lancaster County was F. Morton Donovan, the son of W. T. Donovan, on March 12, 1859. The child was born at Stevens Creek, where the family had gone to escape the threatened Indian troubles. On

March 18th of the same year a son was born to Michael Shea and wife, and soon afterward William Shirley was presented with a son.

In the late fall of 1861 the first frame building in the county was begun and was finished the following spring. Richard Wallingford was the owner and the carpentering was done by W. W. Cox. The doors were constructed of black walnut.

The first postoffice in the county was established in 1863 at Gregory's Basin and J. S. Gregory was the postmaster.

#### INDIAN DISTURBANCES

The early settlers in the territory now comprised in Lancaster County had the opportunity to become well acquainted with the Nebraska red men, namely the Pawnees, Otoes and Omahas. Other tribes, such as the Sioux, were not common as far south as this country. The presence of the Indians here caused many apprehensions upon the part of the settlers, but very seldom did anything occur which bordered upon the serious.

Among the pioneers who came in the spring of 1857 was a man named Davis, a bachelor. He resented the sudden appearance of two redskins in his cabin one morning and shot one of them dead. The other members of the white community, fearing a reprisal, took their few belongings and fled to Weeping Water. They soon returned and found that no damage had been done by the Indians except the robbery of a few homes. During the same time a hundred men at Nebraska City formed an organization to quell the supposed Indian uprising. The expedition resulted in the capture of one Pawnee Indian, but he escaped that night from his three guards, one of whom was John W. Prey.

In 1859 several bands of Cheyenne and Arapahoes came to the salt basins. A group of them stopped at the home of John W. Prey one day, when no one was there except Mrs. Prey and two of the children, sixteen-year-old David and thirteen-year-old Rebecca. The Indians announced their intention of taking the little girl with them, whereupon she fled to a wheat field nearby to hide. The Indians found her, however, and made off. Mrs. Prey had in the meantime sent David after some men who were working down the creek and then, unwilling that her daughter should be taken by the Indians, accompanied them until the men who had been summoned caught up with them. The white men compelled the Indians to release the little girl.

In 1858 while a Government treaty was in progress a large number of Pawnees were encamped in the vicinity of the salt basin, close to the Donovan cabin. Captain Donovan and his family were always on their guard and had to share their food with the Indians. The captain forcibly ejected some Indians from his cabin one day and they became angry, threatening to massacre the whole outfit. It happened that the second chief in command was a friend of Donovan, having been allowed many privileges, and he assured the other Indians that Donovan was a Government agent and could call down the soldiers upon them at will, thus averting the trouble. Mrs. Donovan, at another time, knocked a redskin sprawling with a chair, but the appearance of the men prevented any further disturbance. After these scares Donovan decided to move to Stevens Creek, where he stayed until 1861, then returned and located at Yankee Hill.

Early in the year 1859 the Olathe settlement were threatened by the Pawnees. Some of them stole a deer from the home of Jeremiah B. Garrett, who, in return, organized a band of men and started after the thieves. After traveling about three miles Garrett, Solomon Kirk and William Arnold discovered a group of Indians in the very act of skinning the deer which they had stolen. The white men fired upon them, Arnold wounding his man, but Garrett's bullet found the heart of one of the redskins. In return Garrett received an arrow between his ribs, which he extracted himself. The Indians immediately left the neighborhood.

Shortly afterwards some Pawnees found the cabin owned by James Bogus and Mr. Beals empty and broke in, and carried away clothing and food. The two men returned and found that they had been robbed, whereupon they summoned several men, among them a brother of Bogus, Joel Mason, A. J. Wallingford, Ed Hilton, W. W. Dunham, William Arnold, Bob Palmer, Mr. Sophir. They waited at the Sophir cabin, which stood on Salt Creek, east of the asylum, near Crabb's mill, for the Pawnees who had encamped near the present site of the penitentiary. In the morning the redskins came into view and Joel Mason advanced towards them for a parley. The Indians treated him with contempt and forced him back to the cabin. He gave the signal and his companions opened fire, killing three of the Pawnees and wounding five. The dead Indians were buried in Yankee Hill Precinct and the skull of one of them was preserved for a long time by Judge Cadman.

During the Indian scare of 1864, when the Sioux were on the war path on the Big Blue River, nearly all the Lancaster settlement left. Several of the more courageous stayed until they learned something definite about the movements of the Sioux. Not hearing anything after a few days they mounted horses and proceeded westward to find out for themselves. The party consisted of W. T. Donovan, John S. Gregory, E. W. Warnes, Richard Wallingford, James Morgan, John P. Loder, Aaron Wood and one other. They came in sight of the Blue River before they caught even a glimpse of an Indian and then they were introduced to a few rather suddenly. The first intimation of the redskins' presence was the appearance of a sole warrior upon a hill in their rear. Immediately the Lancaster men began to retreat, but there appeared several hundred more Indians, mounted, across their path. Death seemed very near to the little band of white men and they resolved to cut their way through at any price. Hardly had they arrived at this decision than one of the Indians waved a white flag and rode toward them. The Indians were Pawnees, not Sioux, and the white men were treated as friends. These Indians were themselves on the hunt for their enemy tribesmen, the Sioux.

Numerous other minor conflicts with the Indians might be told, conflicts largely caused by the instinctive thievery of the Indian and his natural inquisitiveness. Nothing else of sanguinary nature, however, has been recorded as happening within what is now Lancaster County.

#### PRE-EMPTION AND HOMESTEAD LAWS

There were two methods only by which a settler could obtain land from the Government within the limits of the State of Nebraska. The first way was by the pre-emption act of September 4, 1841, and the second was by way of the homestead act of May 20, 1862.

The pre-emption act provided that "Every person being the head of a family, or a widow, or single man over the age of twenty-one years, and being a citizen of the United States, or having filed a declaration of intention to become such, as required by the naturalization laws" was entitled to enter at the land office 160 acres of unappropriated government land by complying with all the requirements of the act. It was decided that a single unmarried woman, not the head of a family, but able to meet the requirements of the pre-emption laws, had the right to claim its benefits.

An individual desiring to obtain land under the provisions of the pre-emption act, had first to make settlement in person on the tract by laying the foundations of a house or doing some work with a view of making the same his home. Where the land was "offered" the party had to file with the district land office his declaratory statement as to the fact of his settlement within thirty days from the date of said settlement, and within one year from that date, had to make final proof of his actual residence upon, and cultivation of the tract, and secure the same by paying cash, or filing warrants duly assigned to the preemptor.

Where the land had been surveyed but not offered at public sale, the claimant had to file within three months from date of settlement and make proof and payment within eighteen months from the time of filing the declaratory statement, that is, within twenty-one months from the date of settlement.

Should the settler in either of the aforesaid cases die before establishing his claim within the period limited by law, the title could be perfected by his heirs making the requisite proof and paying for the land. The entry in this case had to be in the name of the heirs of the deceased settler and the patent was issued accordingly.

The right to the land commenced from the date of settlement and the party making the first settlement upon a tract of public land was entitled to the right of preempting the same, provided he subsequently complied with all the requirements of the law.

When a person had filed his declaratory statement for one tract of land, it was not lawful for the same person, at any future period, to file a second declaratory statement for another tract, unless the first filing was invalid in consequence of the land applied for not being subject to preemption, or by determination of the land against him in case of contest, or from any similar cause which would have prevented him from consummating a preemption under his declaratory statement.

The assignment of a preemption claim was null and void and vested no right or equities in the assignee.

A person having filed on a tract of land and afterwards relinquishing the same to the government, thereby forfeited his right to file again for another tract. A party owning 320 acres of land anywhere in the United States could not exercise the right of preemption.

Each qualified preemptor was entitled to 160 acres of either minimum or double minimum lands subject to preemption by paying the government price, \$1.25 per acre for the former class, and \$2.50 per acre for the latter class.

Final proof and payment could not be made until the party had actually resided upon the land for a period of at least six months, and made the necessary



cultivation and improvements to show his good faith as an actual settler. This proof could be made by one witness.

The second method of obtaining title to public lands within the state of Nebraska was by the Homestead Act of May 20, 1862. By this act "Any person who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and is a citizen of the United States, or who shall have filed a declaration of intention to become such, and who has never borne arms against the United States Government, or given aid and comfort to its enemies, shall be entitled to enter one quarter section, or a less quantity of the unappropriated public lands."

Within the limits of the Union Pacific Railroad Land Grant the price of government land was \$2.50 per acre, and the amount allowed for a homestead was restricted to eighty acres. Exception, however, was made in the case of a soldier who had served at least ninety days in the War of the Rebellion and who had been honorably discharged; he was entitled to 160 acres of land at \$2.50, but in all other respects had to comply with the requirements of the Homestead Act.

To obtain a homestead, the party was required, in connection with his application, to file an affidavit that "he is the head of a family, or over the age of twenty-one years, and a citizen of the United States, or has declared his intention to become such; that said entry is made for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation; that said application is made for his own exclusive benefit and not directly or indirectly for the benefit or use of any other person or persons whomsoever." This affidavit had to be made before the register or receiver of the land office or before the clerk of the court of the county in which the party was an actual resident. When made before the county clerk it had to receive his official seal.

On filing the application and affidavit and paying the required fee and commissions (\$14.00) the entry was permitted.

No certificate could be given, or patent issued until the expiration of five years from the date of said entry, and if at the expiration of said time, or at any time within two years thereafter, the person making such entry, or if he was dead, his widow, or in case of her death, his heirs or devisee, or in case of a widow making such entry, her heirs or devisee in case of her death, had to prove by two creditable witnesses, that he, she or they had resided upon and cultivated the same for five years immediately succeeding the date of filing the affidavit, and had to make affidavit that no part of the said land had been alienated, and that he had borne true allegiance to the government of the United States, that he or she if at that time a citizen of the United States, should be entitled to a patent as in other cases provided by law. In case of the death of both parents leaving minor children, the land could be sold for cash for the benefit of such heirs and the purchaser received a title from the United States.

Lands entered under the Homestead Act were exempt from taxes and liability for debts contracted prior to the issuing of the patent therefor.

When a homestead settler had failed to commence his residence upon the land so as to enable him to make a continuous residence of five years within the period (seven years) limited by law, he was permitted, upon filing an affidavit showing sufficient reasons for his neglect, to date his residence at the time he actually commenced such habitaney, and was required to live on the land five

years from said date, provided no adverse claim was attached to said land, and his affidavit was supported by the testimony of disinterested witnesses.

In the case of a death of a homestead settler, who left a widow and children, should the widow again marry and continue her residence and cultivation upon the land entered in the name of her first husband, she was permitted to make final proof as the widow of the deceased settler, and the patent was issued in the name of his heirs.

When a widow or single woman had made a homestead entry and thereafter married a person who had made a similar entry on another tract, it was ruled that the parties might select which tract they would retain for permanent residence, and would be permitted to enter and pay for the other tract on making proof of residence and cultivation up to the date of marriage. They could continue to hold both tracts as homesteads.

If a homestead settler did not wish to remain five years on his land the law permitted him to pay for it with cash or warrants, upon making proof of settlement and cultivation from the date of entry to the time of payment. This proof had to be the affidavit of the party, corroborated by the testimony of two creditable witnesses. The sale of a homestead claim by one settler to another before completion of title was not recognized by the general land office, and not only vested no title or equities in the purchaser but would be *prima facie* evidence of abandonment and give cause for the cancellation of the claim.

The law allowed but one homestead privilege. A settler relinquishing or abandoning his claim could not thereafter make a second homestead entry. A person having made settlement on a surveyed tract and having filed his preemption declaration thereof, might change his filing into a homestead, provided no adverse claim was attached to the land.

There was another class of homesteads designated as adjoining farm homesteads. The law permitted the applicant in these cases, owning and residing on an original farm, to enter other land lying contiguous thereto, which should not with such original farm exceed in the aggregate 160 acres. Thus, for example, a party owning and residing upon eighty acres might enter eighty acres additional of \$1.25, or forty acres of \$2.50 land, if vacant land could be found contiguous to his farm. In such cases the settler had to describe in his affidavit the tract he owned and lived upon. Actual residence upon the tract entered as an adjoining farm was not required, but bona fide improvement and cultivation of it had to be shown for five years.

The right to a tract entered under the Homestead Law commenced from the date of entry in the district land office, and not from date of personal settlement upon the land as in the case of a preemption claim. When an individual had made a mistake in the description of the land he desired to enter as a homestead and wished to amend his application he was allowed to do so upon making affidavit, sustained by the testimony of two disinterested witnesses, setting forth the facts and proving that he resided and had valuable improvements upon the tract he first intended and then desired to enter.

In making final proof the homestead party had to appear in person at the land office and there make the affidavit required of him. When from physical disability, distance or other good cause, the witnesses of said party could not attend in person at the land office, their testimony in support of the claim could

be taken where they resided, before an officer authorized to administer oaths. This testimony had to be filed in the land office. At the time of making final proof the homestead party had to be a citizen of the United States. A declaration to become such was not sufficient.

A homestead settler had to make the tract entered his actual residence and home. A temporary occupancy of a few days during each six months would not entitle him to the benefits of the Homestead Act; and a change of residence or an abandonment of his claim for six months at any time before the expiration of the five years was sufficient cause for the cancellation of his entry.

A settler might relinquish his homestead to the United States by surrendering his duplicate, with his relinquishment endorsed thereon, or if the duplicate had been lost, the fact should be stated in the relinquishment duly signed and acknowledged.

Where application was made for the cancellation of a homestead on the ground of abandonment, the complainant had to file his affidavit with the local land officers, setting forth the facts on which his allegations were founded, describing the tract and giving the name of the settler and the date of his entry. The officers would then set apart a day for a hearing, giving all parties interested due notice of the time and place of the trial. The testimony of two witnesses was required to establish the abandonment of a homestead entry. The expenses incident to such contest had to be defrayed by the contestant.

In case of contest or relinquishment another entry could not be made until the cancellation was ordered by the commissioner of the general land office, and the fact that a party instituted proceedings and paid the expenses incident to a contest, gave him no prior right to the tract in question, which was open to entry to the first qualified applicant.

A party who had made final proof, or commuted his homestead, or relinquished the same, was not thereby disqualified from exercising the right of preemption, nor was a person excluded from the benefits of the Homestead Law because he had theretofore availed himself of the right of preemption. The law allowed a homestead settler six months from the date of his entry in which to erect his house and commence his actual residence upon the land. The fees to be paid at the district land office were as follows: final declaratory statement, \$2.00; making homestead entry, \$14.00; final homestead proof, \$4.00. In making payment with land warrants the following fee had to be paid: forty acre warrant, \$1.00; eighty acre warrant, \$2.00; hundred and twenty acre warrant, \$3.00; hundred and sixty acre warrant, \$4.00. These warrants could be used in payment of \$2.50 lands by paying in addition to the warrant \$1.25 per acre.

#### FIRST CLAIMS IN THE COUNTY.

There is no definite information as to who took up the first preemption claim in Lancaster County, but the supposition is that John D. Prey and sons were the ones; it is established that they were the first to take claims for permanent settlement. This was in 1856.

The first homestead in the county entered under the law of 1862 was by Captain Donovan, on January 2, 1863. He took a location just east of the present site of the state hospital.

Mr. John S. Gregory, in a speech delivered at an old settlers' meeting at Cushman Park on June 19, 1889, said in part:

"The early summer of 1862 found me residing in eastern Michigan, possessed of a comfortable bank account, with the ambition for adventure usual to adolescent youth and a government commission as United States mail agent, a position which enabled me to pass free over the mail routes of the United States, including stage lines. About this time a relative who had passed by the salt basins on his return from California called upon us and advised me to take advantage of my opportunities and visit them, which I immediately proceeded to do.

"The only railroad line then in operation west of the Mississippi was the Hannibal & St. Joe through northern Missouri and I took that route. The road was then in possession of the Missouri 'rebs,' their pickets guarding most of the stations, but the United States mails were permitted to pass freely, and although I wore the livery of Uncle Sam I was not molested.

"From St. Joseph to Plattsmouth I went by stage. At this point public transportation was at an end, and I hired a horse to ride the rest of the way. From Weeping Water to the basin I followed an Indian trail over the 'divide,' then an absolutely unsettled waste of rolling prairie—not a settler from Weeping Water until at Stevens Creek William Shirley had a ranch, a log cabin of two rooms.

"The older settlers know what an Indian trail is, but as I think some of the later ones do not, I will describe it to you. When the roving bands of Indians pass from place to place they pile the coverings of the wigwams and their camp utensils upon their ponies' back and they fasten the tent poles to each side of the loaded pony, the ends dragging along on the ground behind. They often pile 150 to 200 pounds on the pony, and sometimes a squaw or papoose on top of that. Another squaw leads the pony and after forty or fifty have passed along in Indian file the sod is worn away so that it looks very much like a good wagon road. But ponies can pass where wagons cannot, so many a tenderfoot has found out to his sorrow.

"I reached the present site of Lincoln toward evening of a warm day in September. No one lived there or had ever lived there previous to that date. Herds of beautiful antelope gambled over its surface during the day and coyotes and wolves held possession during the night. Mr. Donovan resided at the town (on paper) of Chester about eight miles south. He did not remove to Lincoln until 1867. About a mile west on Middle Creek the smoke was rising from a camp of Otoe Indians and down in the neck of Oak Creek, where West Lincoln now stands, was a camp of about 100 Pawnee wigwams. I rode over and that night slept upon my blanket by the side of one of them, and the next morning went over to the salt basin. The tread of civilization had not then marred its surface. It was smooth and level as any waxen floor. It was covered with an incrustation of salt about a quarter of an inch deep, white as the driven snow, while the water of the springs was as salt as brine could be. I had seen the basin for the first time, in its most favorable aspect, and was naturally quite enthusiastic over its prospects. A roofless and floorless log cabin stood upon the margin, built the year before by J. Sterling Morton, who had gone out from Nebraska City and 'preempted' the basin; but it was deserted and desolate.

"I immediately retraced my steps to Weeping Water, and there bought ox teams and wagons, and hired men, and went to work in earnest for the con-

struction of salt works, which the following year I had in operation and of the capacity of about two tons a day. The salt found ready sale to the freighters from Denver and the mountain regions beyond, at two to three cents a pound. Until the railroads reached the Missouri River and brought eastern salt into competition, it was quite profitable work. My first residence was a dug-out, that is, an excavation dug into the bank of a hill, or rather the creek bank, with a big cottonwood timber for a ridge pole, covered with poles then topped with hay and soil. At the rear was a log fireplace. The front was of sod. Rather crude was all this, but yet quite comfortable.

"The County of Lancaster was organized in the spring of 1863 and I had the honor of being chairman of the first board of county commissioners. An attempt had been made to organize the year before, but it had fallen through because there could not be found available men enough in the county to hold the necessary offices. In the spring of 1864 the Lancaster Colony located at Lincoln, composed of the families of J. M. Young, Dawson, McKesson, Merrill, Giles, Harris, Lavender, Warnes, Humerick, Hudson and one or two others whose names I do not just now recall. They staked out the town and called it Lancaster and soon afterward had the county seat established there. The first postoffice in the county was established in 1863 and was named Gregory's Basin. I was appointed postmaster with a yearly salary of \$3.00. I was also allowed \$12 per year for carrying the mail weekly from Saltillo, then in Clay County."

#### EARLY TAX LISTS

In 1864 the following were the tax payers in the townships and the amount of land upon which they were taxed.

Lancaster Township: Joel Mason, 160 acres; Abraham Beales, 560 acres; Robert Bogges, 160 acres; Julius Cardwell, 160 acres; Gerusha Fouts, 160 acres; Erastus Partridge, 120 acres; Richard Wallingford, 320 acres; Jonathan Ball, 240 acres; James Couthard, 160 acres; Henry Simmons, 160 acres; Robinson, 400 acres; Lew Cochran and Chipman, 1400 acres; J. M. Young, 280 acres; Bartlett, 160 acres; E. H. Eaton, 480 acres; J. W. Seymour, 320 acres.

Stephens Creek Township: Adam Meyer, 160 acres; Benjamin Hemple, 80 acres; David Huntington, 160 acres; M. McDonald, 120 acres; John Lee, 80 acres; W. L. Prey, 480 acres; James Moran, 320 acres; E. H. Eaton, 160 acres; David Dennis, 80 acres; L. J. Loder, 160 acres; R. E. Farmer, 160 acres; Michael Harley, 80 acres; Solomon Deming, 80 acres; J. P. Loder, 160 acres; James E. Neil, 160 acres; Charles Guthman, 120 acres; H. H. Pettit, 80 acres; Charles Retzlaff, 120 acres; Aaron Wood, 80 acres; John Lemcke, 320 acres; John Irvin, 80 acres; E. L. Johnson, 2640 acres.

Saltillo Township: J. W. Prey, 160 acres; T. R. Prey, 160 acres; D. R. Mills, 820 acres; O. E. Boydston and E. Warner, 280 acres; James Etherton, 160 acres; William E. Hayes, 320 acres; John Cadman, 160 acres; John Hilton, 120 acres; Edward Hilton, 160 acres; Julian Metcalf, 440 acres; Joel Mason, 160 acres; Alexander Noble, 160 acres; Morrison Brock, 160 acres; Joshua Buel, 280 acres; Michael Allen, 160 acres; John Foster, 480 acres; W. W. Dunham, 160 acres; G. H. Hilton, 1,240 acres; William Roggenkamp, 120 acres; Harmon Beach, 160 acres; James Isler, 160 acres; J. D. Prey, 240 acres; Solomon Kirk, 40 acres;

Stephen Kent, 120 acres; John Seymour, 160 acres; Nancy Seeley, 160 acres; Charles Thorngate, 160 acres; Steve Meecham, 120 acres; W. A. Williams, 160 acres; Charles Krull, 40 acres; L. N. Haskins, 40 acres; Harmon Beach, 160 acres; John Brunton, 120 acres; John Burtwell, 80 acres; W. E. Keyes, 160 acres; Jefferson Wilson, 80 acres; E. L. Warner, 360 acres; J. D. Brown, 160 acres; A. B. Thornton, 200 acres; J. B. Wasson, 160 acres.

Lancaster Township, 1865: Robert Bogges, 160 acres; Julius Cardwell, 160 acres; E. S. Reed, 80 acres; Jacob Dawson, 160 acres; W. R. Field, 40 acres; Editha Dawson, 160 acres; Wesley Queen, 120 acres; these are in addition to those mentioned in 1864.

The new ones listed in Stephens Creek, as it was then spelled, in 1865, were: Barnhardt Storms, 160 acres; Sam Twist, 40 acres; Owen Marshall, 40 acres; W. Jones, 120 acres; L. G. Todd, 160 acres; Dennis Dowd, 80 acres; Joseph Humes, 40 acres; Robert McClaskey, 120 acres; John Dee, 80 acres; James Moran, 320 acres; Robert E. Farmer, 160 acres; Daniel Harrington, 160 acres.

The tax payers in the Town of Lancaster in 1866 were: J. M. Young, Jacob Dawson, Beasley, J. M. McKesson, Nancy A. McKesson, E. H. Hardenberg, J. G. Miller, G. Morrill, Calvin Crawford, Charles Crawford, Milton Langdon, C. D. Akins, Charles Bloyd, Thomas Hudson, Cyrus Carter, James Riddell, Luke Lavender, W. A. Bridge and Peter Billow.

## CHAPTER III

### ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT OF LANCASTER COUNTY

#### COUNTY ELECTIONS

The first move for the organization of Lancaster County occurred in the fall of 1859, when a public meeting was held under the "Great Elm" which stood on the east bank of Salt Creek, near what is now the northwest corner of the Burlington depot grounds in Lincoln. Festus Reed was elected chairman. Mr. Reed made a speech to the people assembled, extolling the future greatness of the state and county. A. J. Wallingford, Joseph J. Forest and W. T. Donovan were appointed a commission to select a location for a county seat and they chose the present site of Lincoln, which was accordingly laid out, in 1864, and given the name of Lancaster. In 1863 a part of Clay County, which county had been eliminated, was added to Lancaster, giving the latter the area it now has, 864 square miles. Lancaster County is thirty-six miles in length and twenty-four in width.

This division of Clay County between Lancaster and Gage counties was largely the work of Mr. John Cadman, a noted pioneer of this territory. Cadman and John S. Gregory were both members of the territorial legislature in the winter of 1864, and it was the former's idea to partition Clay County between Lancaster and Gage. Gregory, although at first opposed to the scheme, finally advocated it. The two, unable to plan exactly how the partition was to be effected, sought the counsel of T. M. Marquett who then represented the city in the so-called council. His management of the affair was very satisfactory. Cadman was working for the location of the county seat of Lancaster at Yankee Hill, near the present state hospital, and which he had staked off into a town. Elder Young platted the town of Lancaster in the summer of 1864 and he also wished to have the county seat for his town. John S. Gregory had persuaded the legislature to appropriate \$500.00 for a bridge over Salt Creek in Lancaster County, with a view of having it located at Lancaster. The commissioners who were appointed to view the ground for the purpose of selecting the proper place for the bridge were equally attracted by Cadman's and Young's arguments, so, not being able to favor one side above the other, simply divided the money between the two. Thus, with the aid of local subscriptions, a bridge was built across Salt Creek at each place. Lancaster had the benefit of the salt basin and Yankee Hill was located on the freight road from the Missouri River.

In old Clay County the settlers had established what they thought would be a county seat at Olathe and when Cadman managed to have the county abolished

they naturally became enemies of his and planned revenge in some way. Their opportunity came in the county seat election of the summer of 1864 in the W. W. Cox house just south of the great basin; when the votes were counted Lancaster had won and was officially declared the county seat. Mr. Cox, in his article on "The Beginning of Lincoln and Lancaster County" upon another page of this volume narrates rather humorously the county seat fight as he saw it.

#### LANCASTER COUNTY ELECTIONS

One of the first elections upon record as having been held in what is now Lancaster County was that of October 10, 1850, which election had been ordered by the commissioners of Cass County, to which the unorganized county west was attached for election and judicial purposes. This election was held at the house of William Shirley on Stevens Creek. A. J. Wallingford, J. J. Forest and W. T. Donovan were chosen county commissioners; Richard Wallingford was elected county treasurer; L. J. Loder, county clerk; and John P. Loder, county recorder.

On October 9, 1860 a general election occurred, being held at the house of W. T. Donovan for Lancaster County. Twenty-three votes were cast. The following names were inscribed on the official poll list: Jeremiah Showalter, Richard Wallingford, J. D. Main, C. F. Retzlaff, Jonathan Ball, Hiram Allen, Benjamin Eaves, Festus Reed, Daniel Harrington, James Coultard, Benjamin Hemple, William Shirley, James Moran, J. J. Forest, E. L. Reed, Michael Shea, L. J. Loder, John Dee, A. J. Wallingford, Aaron Wood, Lucius West, J. P. Loder and W. T. Donovan. For delegate to Congress J. Sterling Morton received 11 votes and Samuel G. Dailey 12. For councilman, equivalent to a state senator, T. M. Marquett received 13 votes and W. R. Davis 2. For joint or float councilman Samuel H. Ebert received 15 votes and Mr. Cozad 1. For representative William Gilmore had 16 votes; Loudien Mullen, 15; W. R. Davis, 16; William Reed, 16; E. W. Barnum, 12; and J. N. Wise, 6. For county officers the following were chosen: commissioner for one year, J. J. Forest; for two years, A. J. Wallingford; for three years, W. T. Donovan; treasurer, Richard Wallingford; clerk, J. P. Loder. There was no candidate for sheriff, prosecuting attorney or coroner. Festus Reed and Richard Wallingford were elected justices of the peace and C. F. Retzlaff and James Coultard constables.

On October 8, 1861 the county election was held at the home of James Moran and fourteen votes only were cast. Several new names appeared upon the poll list, such as E. Galvin, E. L. Barrett, T. G. Maxwell and Michael McDonald. J. J. Forest was elected county commissioner; Festus Reed, probate judge; L. J. Loder, sheriff; J. P. Loder, clerk; C. L. Barrett, assessor; T. G. Maxwell and J. Moran, justices of the peace; and Jonathan Ball and C. F. Retzlaff, constables.

At the election of October 14, 1862 the division of the county into two precincts was disregarded. Fourteen votes were cast by the following: Messrs. Cox, Mason, Foster, Calkin, Chatterton, Blunt, Wallingford, Ball, Chambers, Loder, Maxwell, Van Benthusen, Donovan and Coultard. T. M. Marquett received 12 votes for councilman for the district. George L. Seybolt received 10 and J. E. Doom 3 votes for joint councilman. Five other Cass County men received votes for representative and T. G. Maxwell received 13 for the same



office, but the other counties in the district not favoring him so much, he was not elected. Joel Mason was elected commissioner.

In 1863 the county election was held on October 13th. Fifty-five votes were cast in Lancaster County. J. S. Gregory, William Shirley and P. S. Schamp were elected commissioners; Milton Langdon was made clerk; Richard Wallingford, treasurer; Joseph Chambers, sheriff; J. J. Forest, surveyor; Dr. John Crim, coroner; J. D. Main, probate judge. J. S. Gregory was elected to the state legislature for the representative district to which Lancaster belonged and John Cadman, who lived in the part of the county then belonging to Clay County, was elected for Clay, Johnson and Gage counties. He was responsible for the obliteration of Clay County and the division of the territory between Lancaster and Gage.

At the territorial election of October 11, 1864, John Cadman was elected to the house of representatives for Lancaster County and William Inlay for the representative district composed of Lancaster, Seward and Saline counties. Richard Wallingford was elected county commissioner; P. S. Schamp, surveyor; and Milton Langdon, prosecuting attorney.

At the general election of October 10, 1865, 125 votes were polled. August Kountz for territorial treasurer, John Gillespie for auditor, received 100 votes each, while S. G. Goodman and John Seaton, their opponents, received 6 votes each. John Cadman was again elected representative for Lancaster County and Joel Mason for the district composed of Lancaster, Seward and Saunders counties. The county officers elected were: Milton Langdon, clerk; Luke Lavender, probate judge; S. S. Snyder, county commissioner; William Guy, treasurer; W. Ingram, coroner; J. S. Gregory, prosecuting attorney; P. S. Schamp, surveyor.

On June 2, 1866, an election was held under the state constitution, prepared by the territorial legislature of 1865-6, at which 165 votes were cast in Lancaster County. David Butler received 112 and J. Sterling Morton received 53 votes for the office of governor: there were 95 votes for the constitution and 53 against it. John Cadman was elected senator to the state legislature, which was the first, and met July 4th. James Queen of Lancaster was elected representative from Lancaster, Seward and Saunders counties. His opponent, J. L. Davison, of Seward, contested the election of Queen and the contest was pending when the legislature adjourned after an eight days' session. Ezra Tullis was elected representative from the county.

At the October election of the same year, pending the admission of Nebraska as a state, 199 votes were cast. J. E. Doom of Cass was elected territorial councilor and state senator from Cass and Lancaster; E. K. Clark, of Seward, representative from Lancaster, Seward and Saunders; E. H. Hardenberg, representative from Lancaster County, to both state and national legislatures. Hardenberg resigned at the close of the session of the territorial legislature in March, 1867, and John Cadman was elected to fill the vacancy in the state legislature which was called shortly afterward. John W. Prey was elected county commissioner.

At the county election on October 8, 1867, there were 235 votes cast. The officers elected were: Silas Pratt, commissioner; John Cadman, probate judge;

S. B. Galey, county clerk; J. H. Hawke, sheriff; M. Langdon, treasurer; Ezra Tullis, surveyor; F. A. Bidwell, school commissioner; Emil Lange, coroner.

At the election of 1868, held October 11th, there were 460 votes polled. David Butler received 320 and J. R. Porter 123 votes for governor. C. H. Gere was elected senator for the district composed of Lancaster, Saline, Gage, Pawnee and Jefferson counties. Ezra Tullis was chosen representative from the county; W. R. Fields was elected county commissioner. Seth Robinson of Lancaster was appointed attorney general by Governor Butler.

The county election of October 10, 1869 brought forth 562 votes. S. B. Pound was elected probate judge over J. M. Bradford by a vote of 392 to 170. Capt. R. A. Bain was elected clerk; John Cadman, treasurer; Sam McClay, sheriff; Milton Langdon, surveyor; Robert Faulkner and D. H. Sudduth, commissioners; Allen M. Ghost, superintendent of public instruction; Dr. D. W. Tingley, coroner.

At the election of October 11, 1870, 1,116 votes were cast. For governor, David Butler received 798 votes and John H. Croxton received 318. Col. A. J. Cropsey of Lancaster was elected senator for the district, and S. B. Galey representative for the county.

An election was held May 2, 1871, to choose delegates to the constitutional convention which met in June. Seth Robinson and J. N. Cassell were elected to represent the county; Col. J. E. Philpott, of Lancaster, from the eleventh senatorial district, of Lancaster and Seward; and W. H. Curtis, of Pawnee, for the fourteenth representative district, composed of Lancaster, Saunders, Johnson, Pawnee and Gage.

At the election on the new constitution, held September 19th of the same year, 1,415 votes were cast—1,237 for the new constitution and 178 against it. The constitution, however, was not adopted.

There were 1,259 votes cast at the county election of October 10th of the same year. The following were elected: J. D. Lottridge, county commissioner; A. L. Palmer, probate judge; R. O. Phillips, clerk; R. A. Bain, treasurer; A. M. Ghost, superintendent of public instruction; J. T. Murphy, surveyor; and Dr. J. G. Fuller, coroner.

There were 1,736 votes polled at the election of October 8, 1872. S. B. Pound, of Lancaster, was elected senator for the eleventh district; S. G. Owen and A. K. White, representatives for the county; and M. H. Sessions, of Lancaster, representative for the fourteenth district. Henry Spellman was elected county commissioner. J. J. Gosper, of Lancaster, was chosen secretary of state.

At the county election of October 14, 1873, there were 1,927 votes polled. The officers elected were: J. Z. Briscoe, commissioner; A. L. Palmer, probate judge; R. O. Phillips, clerk; Charles C. White, treasurer; Sam McClay, sheriff; Dr. J. O. Carter, coroner; Tom I. Atwood, surveyor; J. W. Cassell, superintendent public instruction.

The election of October 13, 1874, was decided by 2,038 voters. For governor, Silas Garber received 1,382 votes, Albert Tuxbury 287, J. H. Gardner 170 and Jarvis S. Church 139. C. C. Burr was elected senator for the eleventh district; Alfred G. Hastings and Louis Helmer, representatives for the county; and Thomas P. Chapman, of Saunders, for the fourteenth representative district. Dr. H. D. Gilbert was elected county commissioner and A. G. Scott superintendent of public instruction, the latter to fill a vacancy. On the question of a constitu-

tional convention there were 1,069 ayes to 558 noes. At the election for members of the constitutional convention held on April 6, 1875, S. B. Pound and C. H. Gere, of Lincoln, C. W. Pierce, of Waverly, and J. B. Hawley, of Firth, were elected to represent the county.

At the state election under the proposed new constitution, and the county election, both occurring October 12, 1875, there were 2,360 votes polled. S. B. Pound, of Lancaster, received 1,533 and G. B. Scofield, of Otoe, 727 votes for the office of judge of the second judicial district. The county officers elected were: W. E. Keys county commissioner; A. G. Scott, county judge; William A. Sharrar, clerk; Charles C. White, treasurer; Sam McClay, sheriff; Dr. A. C. Gibson, coroner; S. G. Lamb, superintendent public instruction; J. P. Walton, surveyor. For the new constitution there were 2,119 votes and against it 109.

At the state election November, 1876, 2,911 votes were polled. For the office of governor Silas Garber received 1,947 votes, Paren England 712, and J. F. Gardner 252. The senators elected from the county, which was now entitled to two, were Thomas P. Kennard, of Lincoln, and Cyrus N. Baird, of Oak Creek. The representatives elected were R. O. Phillips and W. C. Griffith, of Lincoln, John Cadman, of Yankee Hill, and Henry Spellman, of Saltillo. J. N. Wilcox was elected commissioner.

At the election of 1877 A. D. Burr was elected clerk; Louis Helmer, treasurer; J. S. Hoagland, sheriff; J. R. Webster, county judge; G. S. Lamb, superintendent of public instruction; J. P. Walton, surveyor; E. T. Piper, coroner; H. D. Gilbert, commissioner; and C. W. Pierce, state senator, to fill vacancy.

For the office of governor in the election of 1878, Albinus Nance received 1,971 votes, W. H. Webster 433, and L. G. Todd 409. There were 2,818 votes cast. M. B. Cheney and E. E. Brown were elected to the senate, and S. G. Owen, W. W. Carder, M. H. Sessions and T. R. Burling were elected to the house. John McClay was elected commissioner.

At the election of November, 1879, W. J. Weller was elected county commissioner; J. E. Philpott, judge; L. E. Cropsey, clerk; Louis Helmer, treasurer; Granville Ensign, sheriff; A. D. Burr, clerk of the district court; E. T. Piper, coroner; H. S. Bowers, superintendent of public instruction; and J. P. Walton, surveyor. S. B. Pound was elected judge of the second judicial district for a second term.

At the state election of 1880 there were 4,778 votes cast. For governor, Albinus Nance received 3,397 votes and T. W. Tipton 1,381. The senators elected were C. H. Gere and C. W. Pierce. The representatives chosen were N. C. Abbott, C. O. Whedon, N. T. McClunn and R. B. Graham. W. E. G. Caldwell was elected commissioner.

At the county election of 1881 the following officers were chosen: R. B. Graham, treasurer; John M. McClay, clerk; C. M. Parker, judge; H. C. Reller, commissioner; H. S. Bowers, superintendent of public instruction; Granville Ensign, sheriff; J. P. Walton, surveyor; A. J. Shaw, coroner.

At the state election of 1882 there were 4,841 votes cast. The vote for governor was as follows: James W. Dawes, 3,328; J. Sterling Morton, 1,099; E. P. Ingersoll, 391. The amendment for suffrage was defeated by 2,697 to 1,471. For senators to the state for the sixteenth district the vote was: P. H. Walker, 2,708; E. E. Brown, 2,651; A. J. Sawyer, 2,190; the former two were

elected. The representatives chosen were: C. O. Whedon, A. W. Field, H. Wesenberg, J. W. Worl, M. H. Sessions and W. H. Westcott. W. J. Weller was elected commissioner. W. W. W. Jones, of Lancaster, was elected state superintendent of public instruction and C. H. Gere a regent of the university.

The election of November 6, 1883, resulted as follows: S. B. Pound was elected judge of the second judicial district; for treasurer, R. B. Graham received 3,148 votes, J. W. Crist 1,250; for clerk, J. H. McClay received 3,142 votes, A. W. Irvine 1,221; for clerk of district court, E. R. Sizer was elected with 3,093 votes without opposition; for sheriff, S. M. Melick received 2,274 votes, P. H. Cooper 2,117; for county judge, C. M. Parker 3,095, John Williams 1,270; for coroner, N. J. Beachley 3,023, H. B. Lowrey 1,377, N. S. Scott 20; for surveyor, J. P. Walton 3,043, H. S. Bowers 3,006, H. J. Whitmore 1,430; for senator to fill vacancy, Levi Snell; for commissioner, W. E. G. Caldwell 2,544, J. Z. Briscoe 1,793.

Election of November 4, 1884—For governor, James W. Dawes 3,785, J. Sterling Morton 2,340, J. G. Miller 230; for commissioners, H. C. Keller 3,931, William Roggenkamp 2,179, L. C. Humphrey 1, J. Roggenkamp 57; for township organization, 2,695, against it, 1,640; representatives, S. W. Burnham, William B. Brandt, H. J. Liesveldt, A. W. Field, J. B. Wright were elected; Carlos C. Burr and Alva Smith were elected senators.

Election of November 3, 1885—For judge of the second judicial district James L. Mitchell was chosen. For township organization, 2,339, against it, 1,516. For treasurer, Jacob Rocke received 2,588 votes, Austin Humphrey 2,327, Reese Larkin 251. For sheriff, S. M. Melick 3,374, R. H. Moffatt 1,480, D. B. Howard 312. For county judge, Charles M. Parker 3,427, M. L. Easterday 1,446, N. S. Scott 317. For county clerk, O. C. Bell 3,447, C. W. Heffley 1,429, Job Hiatt 298. For register of deeds, John H. McClay 3,332, W. E. Bowers 69. For surveyor, J. P. Walton 3,334, J. J. Kouhn 1,442. For coroner, E. T. Roberts 2,997, S. R. Blizzard 1,753, J. Hoover 340. For county superintendent, Frank D. McCluskey 3,311, D. C. Berry 1,408, Mrs. Belle Bigelow 342. For county commissioner, Alba Brown 3,185, L. P. Loder 1,644, J. Thompson 280.

Election of November 2, 1886—For governor, John M. Thayer 3,985, James E. North 1,924, H. W. Hardy 925. For judge of the second judicial district, Samuel M. Chapman 3,805, W. W. English 1, M. L. Hayward 80. S. W. Burnham and R. E. Moore were elected state senators. J. L. Caldwell, John W. Dickinson, George-Eggleston, H. J. Liesveldt, I. M. Raymond and Jerome Schamp were elected representatives. For county commissioner, H. H. Schaberg received 3,856 votes, P. W. O'Connor 2,047, W. E. Bowers 913. For county attorney, R. D. Stearns 4,066, F. W. Lewis 1,675, R. D. Rhea 803, G. A. Bush 145. For township organization, 2,301, against it, 1,867.

Election of May 31, 1887 (Special)—For court house bonds and tax 2,416, against 612. Little Salt Precinct voted 21-3 in favor, also Mill Precinct by 77-0, but Nemaha, North Bluff, Panama, Rock Creek, South Pass, Stockton, and West Oak Precincts voted against the proposition.

Election of November 8, 1887—For judge of the second judicial district, Allen W. Field 3,158, S. M. Chapman 3,469, A. J. Sawyer 2,375, D. T. Hayden 1,237, Ada C. Bittenbender 638. For treasurer, Jacob Rocke 3,799, Austin Humphrey 116, Louis Helmer 1,004. For clerk of the district court, E. R. Sizer

3,632, A. V. Johnson 1,330, A. H. Humphrey 690. For county clerk, O. C. Bell 3,641, J. W. Crist 1,303, S. C. Loudon 670, James H. Craddock 31. For sheriff, S. M. Melick 3,416, Charles Cook 1,602, N. E. Melick 612. For county judge, Willard E. Stewart 3,499, M. L. Easterday 1,467, John A. Rollins 665. For register of deeds, John D. Knight 3,585, E. H. Zernecke 1,281, J. J. Sittler 708. For commissioner, Thomas J. Dickson 3,564, C. D. Buhrmann 1,349, O. S. Hazleton 732. For county superintendent, Frank D. McCluskey 3,636, Paul Stockfeldt 1,307, Belle G. Bigelow 673. For surveyor, J. P. Walton 3,500, E. J. Robinson 1,385, N. S. Scott 708. For coroner, C. A. Shoemaker 3,504, H. B. Lowrey 1,445, L. F. Polk 696. For township organization 1,430, against it 780.

Election of November 6, 1888—For governor,<sup>4</sup> John M. Thayer 5,440, John A. McShane 3,610, George E. Bigelow 811. The senators elected were I. M. Raymond and S. W. Beardsley. The representatives chosen for the thirtieth district were C. L. Hall, J. L. Caldwell, J. W. Dickinson, F. C. Severin, J. C. McBride. For county attorney, R. D. Stearns 5,692, N. D. Baker 3,399, Clayton M. Osborn 846. For commissioner, Alba Brown 5,373, Ferdinand Schweitzer 3,622, Jacob N. Malone 812. The total vote was 10,039.

Election of November 5, 1889—For treasurer, S. W. Burnham 3,998, Joseph Wittmann 2,044, A. Roberts 433, O. Hull 122. For sheriff, Samuel McClay 3,787, P. H. Cooper 2,409, Robert McCartney 368. For county judge, Willard E. Stewart 4,152, J. D. Calhoun 1,937, A. C. Ricketts 457. For county clerk, Martin Howe 4,197, J. E. Davey 1,904, W. A. Hartley 450. For register of deeds, John D. Knight 4,169, W. H. Stubblefield 1,891, Silas L. Will 472. For surveyor, Winfield S. Scott 3,865, Adna Dobson 2,273, N. S. Scott 403. For coroner, E. L. Holyoke 4,250, T. F. Britt 1,844, A. D. Guile 452. For county superintendent, F. D. McCluskey 4,214, J. C. McCargar 1,799, Mrs. Dr. King 423, J. Oliver 113. For commissioner, Henry Schaberg 4,119, J. Z. Briscoe 1,844, F. A. Hovey 569. For township organization, 1,854, against it, 2,263. The total vote polled was 11,448.

Election of November 4, 1890—For governor, Lucius D. Richards 4,728, James E. Boyd 3,212, John H. Powers 2,976, B. L. Paine 470. For senators of twentieth district, J. M. Thompson and James B. Taylor had the majority of votes in the county. For representatives of the thirtieth district, R. H. Oakley, J. J. Gillilan, A. J. Cornish, F. Charles Severin, J. C. F. McKesson received the majority of votes. For commissioners, W. E. Churchill 5,204, Joseph McGraw 4,819, T. J. Dickson 5,147, J. W. Crist 2,588, Joseph Wittmann 3,441, John Schmidt 2,693, August Anderson 2,834, L. S. Gillick 2,877, D. A. Stocking 2,821, Lorenzo Leavitt 630, A. L. Frazier 651, Reese Larkin 621. For senators of the seventeenth district, R. E. Moore and G. W. Eggleston received the majority of votes. For county attorney, D. G. Courtney 4,480, N. Z. Snell 6,435, R. S. Mockett 238. For township organization 3360, against it 2,234.

Election of November 3, 1891—For district judge, Bittenbender 528, Cromwell 2,848, A. W. Field 4,436, C. L. Hall 4,175, William Leese 3,364, C. M. Osborn 419, C. M. Parker 2,749, J. A. Rollins 439, A. S. Tibbetts 4,036. For county treasurer, S. W. Burnham 4,338, O. Hull 3,302, A. Roberts 534. For sheriff, W. F. Elfeldt 2,594, W. F. Hillman 417, M. E. Hubbard 1,724, Samuel McClay 3,597. For clerk of the district court, Elias Baker 3,358, Madison Bentley 401, C. L. Eaton 1,300, C. E. Waite 3,217. For county clerk, W. S.

Demarc 2,633, D. N. Johnson 497, J. W. Keenan 1,332, J. D. Woods 3,745. For superintendent public instruction, J. S. Baer 3,860, H. S. Bowers 3,696, E. D. Harris 449. For commissioner, A. W. Carver 1,388, L. C. Corey 522, Mat Maule 2,539, J. H. Westcott 3,672. For county judge, I. W. Lansing 3,282, J. L. Mack 422, Whitmore 2,080, W. S. Wynn 2,414. For coroner, T. F. Britt 1,438, F. D. Crim 3,772, T. E. Hosman 2,402, L. D. Perky 497. For surveyor, Thomas Doubt 559, E. J. Robinson 3,390, W. S. Scott 4,139.

Election of November 8, 1892—For governor, C. E. Bentley 575, L. Crouse 5,276, J. Sterling Morton 1,796, C. H. Van Wyck 3,186. For senator of the twentieth district, C. Cheney 573, J. C. Crooker 1,851, G. W. Eggleston 5,322, S. D. Fitchie 542, W. P. Larsh 1,859, I. N. Leonard 2,730, J. C. McNERney 2,649, R. E. Moore 5,053. For representatives of the thirtieth district, S. M. Benedict 738, Joe Burns 5,319, R. T. Chambers 3,145, A. J. Cornish 5,277, J. C. Doubt 557, J. D. Frederick 522, S. S. Griffin 2,806, G. E. Hauser 1,936, Mart Howe 2,984, D. W. Huff 1,798, S. C. Loudon 578, J. C. F. McKesson 5,240, J. M. Meddens 2,718, F. H. Nagel 1,865, R. H. Oakley 5,315, A. H. Carmenter 519, A. Peterson 2,818, J. W. Snowden 1,863, E. R. Spencer 5,227. For district judge, G. W. Berge 490, William Leese 2,715, J. B. Strode 5,220, S. J. Tuttle 2,142. For county attorney, H. F. Rose 4139, Z. A. Wilson 536, W. H. Woodward 5,225. For commissioner, Fred Beckman 5,575, H. W. Hardy 777, F. Schweitzer 3,687.

Election of November 7, 1893—For county clerk, W. A. Loder 479, J. E. R. Miller 4,105, J. D. Woods 4,837. For register of deeds, Lyman H. Babcock 3,509, John Harrop 5,127, George B. Leonard 528. For treasurer, M. M. Cobb 4,541, Hiram Polly 607, Fred Schmidt 4,248. For county judge, O. W. Cromwell 3,897, I. W. Lansing 4,694, S. A. Quincy 554. For sheriff, Fred A. Miller 4,651, Charles M. Ring 1,052, Alba Smith 3,749. For surveyor, Thomas Doubt 628, John Rawlins 1,833, W. E. Scott 5,131, P. S. Schamp 1,639. For coroner, J. G. Cotter 1,776, F. D. Crim 4,825, L. W. Edwards 2,011, T. J. Merriman 554. For county superintendent, J. S. Baer 5,312, A. R. Wightmann 3,406. For commissioner, Eli Bates 501, I. W. Chappell 2936, George Exley 509, Joseph McGraw 985, J. Charles Miller 4,169.

Election of November 6, 1894—For governor, E. A. Gerrard 356, Silas A. Holcomb 4,275, Thomas J. Majors 6,997, P. D. Sturdevant 221. For senator twentieth district, Robert T. Chambers 3,773, J. C. F. McKesson 6,689, Hiram Polly 466, Thomas E. Stevens 3,865, M. L. Trestor 529, John B. Wright 6644. For representative thirtieth district, Joseph Burns 6,535, C. S. Burton 1,343, Clark Cheney 583, O. N. Dunn 3,920, Frank D. Eager 4,080, Henry Harkson 6,744, John Hartline 2,504, Arthur Herrick 3,893, Charles S. Jones 3,997, W. A. Loder 505, J. L. Love 478, T. C. Munger 6,781, W. D. Robinson 6,444, A. W. Smith 632, E. R. Spencer 6,541, J. M. Waugh 488. For county attorney, H. C. Bittenbender 452, Frederick Shepherd 4,311, W. H. Woodward 6696. For county commissioner, J. E. Davey 1,091, J. H. Westcott 6708, George S. Paswater 3,015, S. L. Wright 494. For county judge, George W. Berge 4,746, Lara A. Wilson 1,663. For trustee of sanitary district, William Robertson.

Election of November 5, 1895—For district judge, H. C. Bittenbender 544, George F. Collins 867, A. J. Cornish 5,340, S. L. Geisthardt 1,150, Charles L. Hall 5,776, Edward P. Holmes 5,706, J. L. Mack 518, James C. McNERney 1,771, H. F. Rose 1,931, Addison S. Tibbets 3,393. For treasurer, Maxey M. Cobb

6,157, Hiram Polly 1,873, Joseph Wittman 1,359. For county clerk, M. T. Gilbert 530, Sidney Spence 1,054, A. M. Trimble 5,722, George H. Walters 2,023. For commissioner, W. H. Atwood 1,097, Fred Beckman 6,051, R. E. Richardson 2,067. For clerk of the district court, Elias Baker 4,003, J. G. P. Hilderbrand 390, Sam E. Low 5,092. For sheriff, C. W. Beecher 331, J. C. Kelly 215, Fred A. Miller 4,184, John J. Trompen 4,917. For county judge, John J. Angleton 753, George W. Berge 3,211, S. T. Cochran 5,226. For county superintendent, J. S. Baer 5,990, Susan K. Daily 444, L. M. F. Easterday 867, F. E. Parish 528, John G. Sidell 1,507. For surveyor, Thomas E. Doubt 922, G. H. Ellsworth 1,945, W. S. Scott 6,101. For coroner, Lee W. Edwards 904, A. D. Guile 650, R. A. Holyoke 5,469, H. B. Lowrey 1,858, G. M. Smith 440.

November 3, 1896—For governor, Robert S. Bibb 101, Richard A. Hawley 73, Silas A. Holcomb 5,741, John H. MacColl 6,115, Charles Sadilek 20, Joel Warner 96. For senators twentieth district, O. N. Humphrey 5,165, James Kilburn 237, W. A. Loder 220, E. R. Spencer 5,848, A. R. Talbot 5,863, Owsley Wilson 4,720. For representatives thirtieth district, E. J. Burkett 6,420, Paul F. Clark 6,294, Hans Dierks 5,365, J. M. Doubt 139, T. E. Doubt 209, G. H. Exley 121, James Gray 5,224, W. F. Hillman 173, C. Y. Long 5,173, M. H. Mills 6,105, O. P. Newbranch 5,168, George Shuss 164, F. L. Sumpter 5,202, Charles E. Waite 6,090, E. White 208, T. M. Wimberly 6,137, A. N. Wycloff 241. For treasurer, S. W. Beardsley 5,241, Hiram Polly 238, A. L. Sullivan 6,198. For attorney, H. C. Bittenbender 251, O. P. Davis 5,180, T. C. Munger 5,905. For commissioner, M. Caldwell 257, J. Charles Miller 6,138, William Nelson 5,068. There were 12,661 votes cast at this election.

Election of November 2, 1897—For treasurer, A. L. Sullivan 5,202, J. F. Bishop 4,615, Hiram Polly 151, J. W. Waugh 29, L. S. Gillick 3. For sheriff, John T. Trompen 5,312, Robert Malone 4,504, C. W. Beecher 152, W. F. Hillman 34, R. L. Boulding 4. For clerk, A. M. Trimble 5,291, H. F. Baer 4,472, George Shuss 135, S. D. Fitchie 34, P. S. George 8. For county judge, S. T. Cochran 5,130, C. S. Rainbolt 4,582, A. G. Wolfenbarger 198, Frank G. Odell 31. For register of deeds, George T. Woods 4,526, Paul H. Holm 5,206, James Kilburn 170, W. A. Loder 42, A. Dresback 3. For county superintendent, W. A. Hawes 5,130, T. T. Anderson 4,635, Mrs. M. A. S. Monagon 136. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 5,249, R. A. Trail 4,475, T. C. Doubt 163. For commissioner, G. W. Welton 5,052, A. E. Sutherland 4,647, G. W. Hewitt 137, George H. Exley 35, John T. Reid 8. For coroner, R. A. Holyoke 5,037, R. L. Bentley 4,685, T. J. Merriman 196. There were 10,155 votes polled.

Election of November 8, 1898—For governor, M. L. Hayward 5,692, W. A. Poynter 4,497, R. V. Muir 174, H. S. Aley 32. For senator twentieth district, A. R. Talbot 5,531, Jacob Rocke 5,475, J. H. Harley 4,538, J. J. Stein 4,310, James Hill 160, T. M. Hodgeman 177, A. V. Herman 29, I. Martenson 29. For representatives thirtieth district, Paul F. Clark 5,504, Arthur W. Lane 5,564, Joseph Burns 5,235, George W. Anderson 5,539, Henry Harkson 5,500, Louis N. Wentz 4,657, C. W. Phipps 4,411, A. E. Sheldon 4,520, J. H. Duryea 4,357, C. E. Sisler 4,410, H. H. Hurd 170, Clark Cheney 173, F. G. Franklin 170, Elisha White 178, T. J. Merriman 183. For district judge, Lincoln Frost 5,548, S. J. Tuttle 4,501, George H. Buck 1. For commissioner, Fred Beckman 5,278,

William Schroeder 4,679, C. E. Hedges 191. For attorney, T. C. Munger 5,641, John Carr 4,307. There were 10,527 votes cast.

Election of November 7, 1899—For district judge, E. P. Holmes 5,636, Lincoln Frost 5,787, A. J. Cornish 5,448, T. J. Doyle 4,504, G. E. Hibner 4,391, Robert Wheeler 4,146. For clerk of district court, W. C. Phillips 5,734, A. E. Lindell 4,286, C. E. Hedges 289. For treasurer, A. H. Buckstaff 4,430, William McLaughlin 5,445, J. C. De Putron 385. For county clerk, D. A. Frye 5,682, William Highberger 4,311, N. M. Somerville 273. For sheriff, Z. S. Branson 5,161, P. H. Cooper 4,934, C. W. Beecher 279. For county judge, F. R. Waters 5,076, Fred Shepherd 4,968, Thomas McCulloch 291. For county commissioner, Samuel Tilton 5,510, John J. Meyer 4,655. For county superintendent, William A. Hawes 5,796, F. E. Parish 4,084, Mrs. M. A. S. Monagon 303. For surveyor, W. S. Scott was elected by 7,297 votes. For coroner, F. A. Graham 5,365, R. L. Bentley 4,422, T. J. Merriman 292. The total vote was 10,686.

Election of November 6, 1900—For governor, Charles H. Dietrich received 7,027 votes, William A. Poynter 5,654, Lucius O. Jones 421, Taylor Flick 30, Theodore Kharas 18. For senators twentieth district, Richard O'Neill 7,173, John Trompen 6,884, A. S. Tibbetts 5,514, T. J. Doyle 5,297, J. P. Kettlewell 291, E. E. White 283, Fred Herman 38, J. C. Kucera 29. For representatives thirtieth district, A. W. Lane 7,117, John H. Mockett, Jr., 7,095, C. R. Tefft 6,968, E. J. Shellhorn 6,944, Charles T. Warner 6,952, M. W. Cochrane 5,551, Henry Schaal 5,496, J. E. Miller 5,608, J. C. Muggleton 5,330, William Nelson 5,422, R. E. Howard 313, H. L. Powers 292, Bert Reynolds 296, Thomas McCullough 288, A. K. Wright 262, J. Martenson 31, Emil Ittig 24, C. Herman 36, A. Caslavsky 23, M. Herman 28. For county attorney, James L. Caldwell 7,187, F. L. Sumpter 5,235, H. C. Bittenbender 349. For commissioner, George W. Welton 6,614, A. E. Sutherland 5,614, G. W. Selby 294. There were 13,864 votes cast at this election.

Election of November 5, 1901—For treasurer, B. F. Knight 4,457, William McLaughlin 3,733, C. E. Hedges 216. For county clerk, D. A. Frye 5,231, J. T. Wiesman 2,812, Ebenezer Brown 270. For sheriff, Z. S. Branson 5,461, A. Wanmer 2,360, J. H. Ayres 260. For county judge, F. R. Waters 5,211, R. H. Hagelin 2,777, C. Fordyce 352. For register of deeds, J. D. Moore 4,043, J. J. Anderson 4,006, T. McCullough 223. For commissioner, A. D. Borgelt 1,519, Joseph Wittman 780, F. Thompson 44. For county superintendent, W. A. Hawes 5,253, A. J. Roberts 2,818, E. D. Harris, Sr., 250. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 5,896. For coroner, F. A. Graham 5,023, E. A. Carr 2,843, T. J. Merriman 356. The total number of votes cast was 8,558.

Election of November 4, 1902—For governor, John H. Mickey received 5,537 votes, W. H. Thompson 3,575, Sam T. Davis 185, George E. Bigelow 68. For senator twentieth district, Richard O'Neill 5,582, P. F. Beghtol 5,433, H. E. Dawes 3,181, W. M. Maupin 3,158, Charle Fordyce 316, T. M. Hodgman 306, C. M. Bailey 68, A. L. A. Schiermeyer 56. For representatives thirtieth district, J. H. Mockett, Jr., 5,616, John H. McClay 5,511, H. C. M. Burgess 5,531, C. J. Warner 5,565, J. G. Halliett 5,447, C. Ballenger 3,155, H. J. Becker 3,138, S. R. Hall 3,178, A. Meese 3,173, M. Schwind 3,152, S. L. Wright 291, J. R. Ayres 279, J. C. De Putron 302, D. A. Latture 254, A. E. Bowers, 265; R. A. Hawley 75, J. H. Loper 62, F. Fritsche 54, J. F. Sutler 52. For attorney, J. L.



Caldwell 5,591, W. B. Price 3,151, Neal Stewart 318. For commissioner, S. Tilton 1,401, R. L. Newton 1,521, H. H. Hurd 29. There were 9,492 votes cast at this election.

Election of November 3, 1903—The number of votes cast was 8,306. For district judges, Lincoln Frost 6,103, E. P. Holmes 6,043, A. J. Cornish 6,027. For clerk of the district court, William C. Phillips 5,358, Jacob B. Meyer 2,303, Clarence Hedges 375. For county treasurer, Benjamin F. Knight 4,957, William Foster 2,812, J. H. Elmore 340. For county clerk, Walter L. Dawson 5,382, Leon C. Crandall 2,394, I. N. Clark 341. For sheriff, Nicholas Ress 5,522, John P. Higgins 2,220, E. Harris, Jr., 305. For county judge, Frank R. Waters 5,430, Milton Schwind 2,443. For county assessor, J. R. Miller 5,254, Joseph McGraw 2,460, Stanley Howard 347. For commissioner, Fred Kinyon 5,192, George W. Stabler 2,594, Cyrus Cushman 360. For county superintendent, O. R. Bowman 5,336, E. F. Monroe 2,336, Mary B. Russell 376. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 5,538, B. A. Newton 2,324. For coroner, F. A. Graham 5,315, James D. Case 2,324, W. N. Ramey 413.

Election of November 8, 1904, at which 11,832 votes were polled. For governor, John H. Mickey received 6,536 votes, George W. Berge 4,601, C. F. Swander 351, B. H. Vail 85. For senators, P. F. Beghtol 6,820, J. H. Mockett, Jr. 6,840, John E. Miller 3,985, T. O. Jones 662, F. W. Emerson 520, Bert Wilson 470, A. L. A. Schiermeyer 109. For representatives, C. J. Warner 7,225, John H. McClay 7,189, H. C. M. Burgess 7,166, Joseph Burns 6,861, J. G. Halliett 7,085, W. M. Morning 4,094, Hugh Lomax 694, H. Wittstruck 659, M. Clark 661, N. Wilson 659, F. E. Linch 592. For commissioner, D. W. Mosely 7,683, J. H. Elmore 1,384. For attorney, J. L. Caldwell 7,653, A. G. Wolfenbarger 1,452.

Election of November 7, 1905—There were only 6,880 votes cast at this time. For treasurer, Dennis C. Berry 4,343, G. H. Ruhaak 1,883, A. L. Johnson 485. For clerk, Walter L. Dawson 4,329, Jacob B. Meyer 1,865, C. N. Porter 463. For sheriff, N. Ress 4,275, C. M. Branson 1,932, L. M. Russell 466. For county judge, Frank R. Waters 3,518, John J. Ledwith 2,739, David M. Sayles 436. For register of deeds, Jesse D. Moore 3,728, Sam Hinkle 2,543, M. H. Wittstruck 451. For commissioner, Robert Pickel 4,433, B. F. Chambers 996. For county superintendent, O. R. Bowman 4,395, William Whelan 1,954. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 4,605, W. M. Reeves 848. For coroner, F. A. Graham 3,418, R. L. Bentley 2,785, W. N. Ramey 449.

Election of November 6, 1906—Number of votes, 9,685. For governor, George L. Sheldon 5,754, A. C. Schallenberger 3,240, H. T. Sutton 479, Elisha Taylor 71. For senators, Joseph Burns 4,871, J. C. F. McKesson 4,982, A. S. Tibbetts 3,860, A. E. Sutherland 3,625, Charles E. Coffin 610. For representatives, William J. Blystone 5,440, E. W. Brown 5,401, E. P. Brown 5,381, Frank Rejcha 5,301, L. S. Gilman, 5,380, C. Y. Long 3,227, G. F. Quick 3,488, H. W. Smith 3,490, S. R. Hall 3,202, D. Coggin 3,034, F. E. Linch 625, M. Doubt 568, E. Harris 550, William F. Hunt 575. For commissioner, F. C. Kinyon 5,440, August Schroer 3,498. For attorney, F. M. Tyrrell 4,715, Fred Shepherd 4,125. For police judge, P. James Cosgrave 3,655.

Election of November 5, 1907—Votes polled, 7,759. For district judges, Willard E. Stewart 4,335, Lincoln Frost 5,192, A. J. Cornish 5,099, A. J. Sawyer 3,485. For clerk of district court, J. S. Baer 4,638, Charles M. Branson 2,719.

For treasurer, Dennis C. Berry 5,550. For county clerk, Walter L. Dawson 5,476. For sheriff, Henry V. Hoagland 4,275, Robert Malone 3,128. For county judge, P. James Cosgrave 5,648. For assessor, D. R. C. Miller 5,372. For commissioner, John R. Bennett 5,399. For county superintendent, O. R. Bowman 5,445. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 5,510. For coroner, V. A. Matthews 4,848, E. L. Troyer 2,395. For police judge, George H. Risser 2,762.

Election of November 3, 1908—Votes polled, 16,646. For governor, George L. Sheldon 8,682, A. C. Shallenberger 7,340, Roy R. Teeter 316, C. H. Harbaugh 79. For senators, Edward P. Brown 8,572, S. W. Burnham 7,287, R. T. Chambers 6,892, John E. Miller 8,654. For representatives, Cyrus Black 8,488, W. J. Blystone 8,462, Elmer W. Brown 8,519, Leonard C. Foss 7,377, William Green 7,282, C. E. Groves 8,160, Fred B. Humphrey 8,661, Charles T. Knapp 7,596, W. C. Norton 7,449, L. A. Simmons 7,395; King W. Gillespie 652. For commissioner, Robert Pickel 7,161, John Flynn 8,585. For attorney, F. M. Tyrrell 9,190.

Election of November 2, 1909—Votes cast, 8,765. For county clerk, Charles A. Kinnamon 3,565, Harry E. Wells 4,710, J. C. McKenzie 105. For treasurer, William McLaughlin 4,310, Fred Beckman 4,065, Charles S. Wells, Sr., 101. For register of deeds, John T. Wiesman 3,232, W. M. Clinton 5,030, J. A. Townsend 109. For county judge, P. James Cosgrave 5,675. For sheriff, Louis P. Faulhaber 3,286, Henry V. Hoagland 4,975, L. A. Jenkins 120. For county superintendent, E. C. Kemble 3,598, George F. Burkett 4,560, Florence J. Schuler 137. For surveyor, W. S. Scott 5,910. For coroner, J. A. Hodam 3,004, V. A. Matthews 5,261. For commissioner, William Rooney 3,249, Carl O. Johnson 4,943, C. R. Oyler 100. For police judge, R. H. Hagelin 1,203, George H. Risser 2,579, Minor S. Bacon 513.

Election of November 8, 1910—There were 13,974 votes polled at this time. For governor, Chester H. Aldrich 7,677, James C. Dahlman 5,597, Clyde J. Wright 414. For senators Twentieth District, Edward P. Brown 7,207, William A. Selleck 6,634, R. Chambers 4,506, Albert Watkins 5,265, J. W. Jonas 542, T. C. McKenzie 480. For representatives, Cyrus Black 5,104, A. J. Minor 6,774, John H. Mockett, Jr., 7,153, S. R. McKelvie 6,872, Earl O. Eager 6,187, J. H. Allen 3,863, Frank Mills 3,860, Ira H. Hatfield 6,145, John E. Miller 5,977, W. F. Dale 3,397, J. C. McElwain 404, E. L. McMullen 406, C. A. Rankin 483, Henry Veith 2,567, Abram S. Toops 2,161. For commissioner, J. R. Bennett 7,541, Wilson E. Field 4,566. For attorney, J. B. Strode 6,737, O. W. Meier 5,493. For county superintendent (to fill vacancy), O. H. Morris 6,407, E. C. Kemble 5,547.

Election of November 7, 1911—Votes cast, 10,370. For district judges of Third Judicial District, W. E. Stewart, 6,327, A. J. Cornish 6,265, P. James Cosgrave 5,853, Sterling F. Mutz 2,333, Raymond J. Abbott 2,769, Frederick Shepherd 4,276, S. C. Hale 407, Frank Wright 439. For clerk of District Court, J. S. Baer 6,360, Charles G. Adams 3,246. For treasurer, Phillip A. Sommerlad 5,228, William McCormick 4,420, W. J. Eyestone 331. For county clerk, Harry E. Wells 6,231, E. A. Vanderlip 3,158, H. E. Phillips 481. For sheriff, Gus A. Hyers 5,425, L. A. Simmons 4,143, Charles D. Lamme 375, H. B. Parker 2. For county judge, George H. Risser 5,921, Henry A. Meier 3,712, Charles S. Wells, Sr., 404. For commissioner, Clinton J. Mitchell 4,794, John Flynn 4,481, Paul Goss 270, S. T. Hay 413. For county superintendent, W. H. Gardner 6,021, Mary E. Larsh 3,090, A. E. Wagner 314, Luella Wright 461. For surveyor, W. S.

Scott 5,689, D. P. Weeks 3,559, H. C. Swallow 459. For coroner, V. A. Matthews 5,609, E. L. Troyer 3,361, Henry B. Brown 660, Charles Lee 335. For police judge, Bruce Fullerton 3,533, Charles H. Adams 1,390, C. R. Oyler 302.

Election of November 5, 1912—Votes cast, 14,356. For governor, Chester H. Aldrich 6,256, John H. Morehead 7,111, Clyde J. Wright 467, Nathan Wilson 241. For senators Twentieth District, Henry V. Hoagland 7,015, John T. Marshall 6,951, Otto W. Meier 6,158, Charles S. Roe 5,829, J. R. Burleigh 500, T. J. Merriman 326, Rufus M. Pierce 301. For representatives Thirtieth District, A. W. Richardson 6,952, G. R. Buckner 6,815, Edwin Jeary 7,026, John H. Mockett, Jr., 6,938, Charles C. Quiggle 6,844, H. K. Burkett 6,926, William Foster 6,268, Edgar F. Snively 6,061, Charles W. Enyeart 5,878, George F. Quick 5,864, A. P. Ferguson 5,947, Frank Mills 5,782, J. H. Loper 403, George A. Spangler 317, A. H. Parmenter 312, E. D. Harris, Jr., 282, George I. Wright 304, A. M. Whitehorn 261. For commissioner, Carl O. Johnson 6,894, George C. Curyea 6,209, N. P. Jensen 368. For attorney, J. B. Strode 7,206, R. C. Abbott 5,813, H. C. Bittenbender 403. For assessor, James A. Sheffield 6,884, E. B. Zimmerman 5,977, O. S. Stone 362.

Election of November 3, 1914—There were 13,145 votes cast at this election. For governor, John H. Morehead 6,275, H. E. Sackett 533, R. B. Howell 5,776, George C. Porter 256, Nathan Wilson 167. For county poor house 5,797, against 2,312. For senator of Thirteenth District, Robert Malone 4,643, O. W. Meier 4,948, N. P. Hansen 1,533, L. E. Gruver 851, Henry V. Hoagland 6,130, John T. Marshall 5,195, O. W. Lake 398, E. D. Harris, Jr., 310. For representatives Thirtieth District, William Foster 5,543, B. W. Leavitt 5,001, Paul Goss 4,749, R. A. Bickford 4,904, J. Frank Mills 4,499, N. O. Reynolds 4,444, Lester C. Syford 926, J. L. Walter 694, J. A. Dumbolton 688, J. L. Kennard 995, Dan Munn 742, L. B. Fuller 851, Edwin Jeary 6,115, A. H. Hulton 5,605, C. Petrus Peterson 5,823, John H. Mockett, Jr., 6,272, R. S. Mosely 5,497, Earl Eager 5,342, Harry Streeter 445, H. C. Swanson 418. For county clerk, A. E. Sutherland 5,800, Logan A. Rogers 655, Harry E. Wells 5,950. For treasurer, E. B. Zimmerman 4,911, Phillip A. Sommerlad 6,698, Louis Helmer 458. For sheriff, T. J. Smith 4,570, D. W. Jacoby 975, Gus A. Hyers 6,765, C. R. Oyler 271. For register of deeds, Alanson Chapman 5,585, Thomas E. Wheeler 6,520. For register of deeds (to fill vacancy), C. W. Holmes 8,060. For attorney, Howard J. Whitmore 5,128, George A. Adams 1,273, G. E. Hager 5,914. For county superintendent, E. C. Kemble 4,896, Minnie P. Knotts 1,534, W. H. Gardner 5,688. For commissioner, Second District, Harry H. Leavitt 5,272, James A. Curtis 711, John R. Bennett 5,931. For commissioner, Third District, John Flynn 4,858, Clinton J. Mitchell 6,135. For surveyor, Arthur H. Edgren 10,583, W. S. Scott 15. For coroner, E. L. Troyer 5,131, V. A. Matthews 6,903. For police judge, O. W. Miller 2,674, Bruce Fullerton 4,218. For county judge, George H. Risser 8,692.

#### THE COURTHOUSE

The old Cottonwood Building at Lancaster known as the courthouse, was bought from Dora Hardenberg by S. P. Benadom for \$800. He used the building, which was thirty-three feet square, two stories, as a residence for a number of

years. The county offices were, during the first years of the county's existence, located in various places; in residences, in office rooms wherever a vacant place could be found. In the record of the commissioners' meeting in this chapter, under the date of August 3, 1869, the county officers are shown to have been assigned rooms in the Sweet & Brock Building. In September, 1871, a large number of the citizens of the county petitioned for the issuing of bonds for the erection of a courthouse and jail, the bonds to be for the sum of \$50,000. A special election was ordered for October 10th of the same year, provided that the new constitution of Nebraska should be ratified and adopted on September 19, 1871, and then the election should be held on November 7th. A special election was also ordered for November 7th on the question of conveying by deed certain blocks in the old Lancaster townsite for the courthouse square in Lincoln. This was voted on favorably by the people. In August, 1880, the commissioners ordered that at the first election in November a vote should be taken on the proposition to bond the county for \$25,000 in order to construct a courthouse in Lincoln. No further record of this can be found. In October, 1882, the commissioners ordered an election in November on placing a 5-mill levy, in addition to previous levies, on the county for five years in order to make up the sum of \$125,000 which was to be used for the construction of the courthouse.

Again, on October 2, 1885, the commissioners ordered that the proposition of bonding the county for \$125,000 for the courthouse erection be submitted to the vote of the people at the general election of November 3, 1885. On April 23, 1887, almost two years later, the commissioners once more ordered an election for May 31st of the same year to decide whether or not to issue bonds for \$200,000 for the courthouse. On June 3d it was reported that 3,028 votes had been cast at the above election, of which 2,416 were in favor of the proposition and 612 were against it. Accordingly, O. C. Bell, the county clerk, notified the architects that plans and specifications for the courthouse would be received by him until noon on Tuesday, July 5, 1887. The board decided that, in the interests of the county, they should make an extended tour through other states, inspecting various courthouses and deciding on the best style for the particular needs of Lancaster County. They visited the states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio. On July 27, 1887, the firm of E. E. Myers & Son, of Detroit, Mich., was announced as the successful bidder among the architects. On November 15, 1887, the bids for the construction of the building were opened and all were flatly rejected as they exceeded the amount appropriated for the purpose. On January 13, 1888, new bids were opened and again all were rejected. Also, the plans made by E. E. Myers & Son suffered the same fate, as it seemed none of the contractors could bring their price down to the appropriated amount and at the same time abide by the plans the architects had supplied. The Myers firm threatened litigation, but on the 19th notice was given to other firms for presentation of plans. On February 21, 1888, the plans which had been submitted were opened and on March 1st the work of F. M. Ellis, of Omaha, was approved and accepted. On May 17, 1888, bids for construction were received and examined and that of W. H. B. Stout, of Lincoln, which named the sum of \$167,497.42, was accepted.

The cornerstone of the courthouse was laid on Thursday, November 1, 1888. A light rain in the morning preceded a day of sunshine, but notwithstanding

there was a very small attendance. At 2 o'clock a parade was started from the Masonic Temple. The marchers consisted of Dalby's K. P. Band, Canton Ford No. 2, I. O. O. F., the Masonic Lodge, and carriages containing prominent Lincoln citizens. The parade followed this route: south on Eleventh to K, then west one block to courthouse square. A broad stairway led to the floor which had been laid on the northeast corner of the building and here people found seats. The exercises were in charge of Grand Master George B. France, of the grand lodge of Nebraska Masons. A prayer was offered by Grand Chaplain Hood. The placing of the box was in charge of Grand Treasurer Chris Hartman. The following articles were placed in the box: history of Lancaster County by O. C. Bell, history of county bonds by J. H. McClay and O. C. Bell, trial docket, October term, 1871, and May term, 1888, by E. R. Sizer, course of studies, prospectus and blanks from Superintendent McCluskey, political manual of platforms, catalog of Lincoln Business College, revised list map of Lincoln, English coin of 1764, three arrow points presented by Alba Brown, large number of personal cards, coin of 1888 presented by H. H. Schaberg, minutes of seventh annual meeting of Nebraska State Pharmaceutical Association, copies of State Journal, Lincoln Evening News, Freie Presse, Staats-Anzeiger and Daily Call. Advance sheets from Lincoln city directory for 1888-89 by Cherrier Publishing Company and State Journal Company. The stone was set, the box sealed, placed in cavity, covered with cement, then capped by a second stone. This was put in place by Architect F. M. Ellis, assisted by the superintendent of the building. The grand officer tested the stone, poured out the grain, wine and oil upon it, then H. H. Wilson, grand orator, was called upon for an address. Next came a musical selection, followed by an address by O. P. Mason.

The dimensions of the courthouse are 150 feet north and south and 100 feet east and west. The building is constructed with a high basement and three full stories, fireproof. The rock-faced sandstone outside is from Berea, Ohio. The inside walls are built of hard brick, wood being used only in doors, windows and furniture. Tile floors are used. The girders are of steel and arched between with brick. The roof is of slate, supported by steel rafters, and all the roof ornaments are of iron and copper.

## CHAPTER IV

### IMPORTANT PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

#### THE FIRST BOARD

Although the first board of county commissioners, consisting of A. J. Wallingford, J. J. Forest and W. T. Donovan, was elected at the first general election in Lancaster County on October 10, 1859, no official record of their proceedings is available until that given under the date of May 1, 1862, the same being an adjourned meeting of the board. The brief and rather imperfect record gives the information that on this date the county was divided into two election precincts, by a line running east and west through the center of town 10; also a petition for a road from the southeast corner of section 31, town 9, range 7, and another from the southeast corner of section 36, town 9, range 6, and one from the southeast corner of section 16, town 12, range 6, were received. The one who penned the record had little knowledge of the proper form of transcribing such a record, or else regarded the matter indifferently, for there is not a word stating the direction these roads were to run or to what point they were to be surveyed; the county clerk at that time, J. P. Loder, also thought it unnecessary to affix his signature to the document. The board adjourned until July 1st, but in all probability did not meet again until after the October election.

#### EARLY MEETINGS

The next record is of a meeting of the board of county commissioners on November 3, 1862. Then the commissioners ordered a special election to be held January 17, 1863, to fill vacancies in the office of county coroner, county surveyor, and justices of the peace and constables. The vacancies occurred because the candidates elected had not been able to qualify according to law. The next meeting was held February 5, 1863, and the officers who were elected at the above special election were sworn in. The commissioners also instructed the county clerk to notify Judge Festus Reed to cease his depredations on the timber in the school section in town 9, range 6. What the judge's depredations consisted of is not detailed in the minutes. Another meeting was held on September 12th of the same year and the county was divided into four precincts, the same to be called Lancaster, Salt Basin, Stevens Creek and Salt Creek. The various places for holding elections in these precincts were also designated.

The county commissioners of Lancaster and Gage counties held a meeting at the house of H. W. Parker of Clay County, near Olathe, on July 19, 1864, and

made a final settlement of the affairs of the county. The document setting forth the terms of this settlement was signed by Fordice Roper, F. H. Dobbs and William Tyler, commissioners of Clay County, and John W. Prey of Lancaster, and attested by Oliver Townsend, clerk of Gage County, and duly filed. Copies of the official records of Clay County were made for Gage and Lancaster counties, but the latter were lost in Salt Creek while being carried by one William Mills. The account of this unfortunate happening is given in another paragraph of this chapter.

On November 2, 1864, the commissioners met at the office of the clerk for the purpose of examining and approving the bonds of the county officers. There were present: William Shirley, P. S. Shamp and John S. Gregory, commissioners; John P. Loder, clerk; M. Langdon, deputy. They approved the bonds of the following officers: Milton Langdon, county clerk and register; Richard Wallingford, treasurer; Job D. Main, probate judge; Josiah Chambers, sheriff; Dr. John Crim, coroner; Thomas Mozi, constable; W. W. Cox and William Peterman, justices; James R. Dye, assessor of Salt Basin Precinct; P. S. Shamp, assessor of Lancaster Precinct.

At the meeting of January 25, 1864, the report of George Fleischer, a commissioner appointed to survey a road, was received and ordered to be recorded. The county clerk was instructed to prepare assessment rolls for the county precincts; also ordered that Jacob Dawson be appointed to the office of prosecuting attorney of Lancaster County. At the meeting of March 26th, same year, it is recorded that "assessment rolls were prepared for the different precincts with such lists of lands as could be made with the means at hand, having failed to get the list from the land office from want of county credit."

The following paragraphs will give the most important transactions of the board of county commissioners from this time until January, 1916:

April 4, 1864—The board received the petition of Jacob Dawson and others for the appointment of a commissioner to view and locate a road commencing at the mouth of Stevens Creek and running up said creek; John Wettencamp was chosen as the commissioner. Jacob Dawson and others also petitioned for a road commencing at the terminus of the steam wagon road and running thence westward; D. Main was appointed the commissioner to locate this highway. A road was ordered commencing at section 26, town 10, range 6, running thence up Salt Creek; J. J. Forest was made commissioner for this one. The petition of J. D. Main and others for a road commencing on the east side of the county, running west by way of the salt basin to the west line of the county was granted and Jacob Dawson appointed commissioner.

May 10, 1864—The proclamation of the governor was received concerning the election of delegates to a constitutional convention. John S. Gregory was called to testify relative to acts passed by the last Legislature in regard to representative districts. He said that Lancaster County had one representative and that Lancaster, Clay, Seward and Saunders counties had one. The election for said delegate was ordered to be held on June 6th. The commissioners at this meeting proceeded to divide the county into election precincts as follows: Lancaster Precinct consisted of towns 10, 11 and 12, of ranges 5 and 6; Stevens Creek Precinct consisted of towns 10, 11 and 12, of ranges 7 and 8; Salt Creek

Precinct consisted of town 9, of ranges 5, 6, 7 and 8; Saltillo Precinct consisted of towns 7 and 8, of ranges 5, 6, 7 and 8.

May 28, 1864—The commissioners pursuant to special call for the purpose of considering the law relative to the election of county officers and locating the county seat, approved February 13, 1864; also for the districting of the county for the commissioners. There were present: William Shirley, P. S. Shamp and John Crim, commissioners. The county was districted as follows: Number One consisted of towns 9, 10, 11 and 12, of ranges 5 and 6; Number Two consisted of towns 9, 10, 11 and 12, of ranges 7 and 8; Number Three consisted of towns 7 and 8, of ranges 5, 6, 7 and 8. It was ordered that the election of county officers and for the county seat be held on the first Monday of June, 1864.

#### TAX LEVY

July 4, 1864—The commissioners proceeded to levy a tax on the county. For the general fund \$300 was levied; for territorial tax  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mills on the dollar was levied; for school tax  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mills on the dollar; for road tax 5 mills on the dollar; for the poor tax the sum of \$50. It was ordered that each voting precinct should constitute a road district.

#### LOT DONATIONS

August 1, 1866—The account of Josiah Chambers, amounting to \$34, for the care of John Hunt, was allowed; the bill of Dr. John Crim for professional services in the case of John Hunt, amounting to \$15, was also allowed. Proposition of I. M. Young in regard to donation of lots and blocks in the Town of Lancaster for the county seat was taken up and Jacob Dawson was appointed agent to select said land for the county and procure deeds for the same. The precincts of the county were reorganized to correspond with the commissioners' districts, except the east line at the end.

August 19, 1866—Jacob Dawson selected lots according to order of commissioners, commencing with block No. 2, then No. 6, 10, etc., taking every fourth block and selecting block No. 6 for the county buildings.

#### OFFER TO BURLINGTON

January 2, 1865—The commissioners ordered that the county clerk be authorized to propose to donate one-half of the county interest in the Town of Lancaster to the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, provided they ran their road through the said town and established a permanent depot therein.

#### TERRITORIAL BRIDGE

April 3, 1865—The board relocated the territorial bridge which was erected at the mouth of Oak Creek, but washed off by high water, at the section line between sections 23 and 26, town 10 north, range 6 east, where said line crosses Salt Creek. Petition of P. S. Shamp and others, twelve in number, for a road to commence at or near the northeast corner of town 8, range 8, running thence



to Saltillo postoffice granted and Henry Simmons appointed commissioner. Petition of Thomas B. Prey and thirteen others for an alteration of the territorial road from Nebraska City to Fort Kearney granted and L. W. Haskin appointed commissioner.

July 3, 1865—Resolved that one lot in Lancaster be donated to Joseph Bennett, provided he builds a business house in Lancaster Townsite and keeps up a mercantile establishment.

#### MORE LOT DONATIONS

April 16, 1866—The commissioners ordered that donations of lots in Lancaster be made from the county lots to persons who would build respectable houses on the same. No lots in block 6, which was for courthouse, were to be included in this arrangement. Oak Creek Precinct was set off from Lancaster Precinct.

April 15, 1867—Buffalo Precinct was formed.

#### PRICE OF LOTS

June 18, 1867—It was ordered that W. T. Donovan be allowed to build on lots 3 and 4, in block 22, in Lancaster. It was ordered that all town lots not reserved for county purposes be sold for the prices and under the conditions following: inside lots for not less than twenty-five dollars each; corner lots for not less than fifty dollars; each or none to be sold unless 25 per cent of purchase price was paid immediately and the balance in six months.

July 1, 1867—Upper Salt Creek Precinct was formed.

#### STATE CAPITAL INDUCEMENT

August 1, 1867—The commissioners proceeded to consider the question of donating the interest of the county in the Town of Lancaster to the state. Upon due consideration it was ordered that the interest of Lancaster County in the Town of Lancaster be quit-claimed to the State of Nebraska in consideration of the permanent location of the capitol and other state buildings thereat adjoining, also that one block of lots in Lincoln, of the new survey, be reserved for the county courthouse, also suitable grounds for the county jail. Richard Wallingford was authorized to execute and acknowledge the deed to said land.

April 6, 1868—It was ordered that a license be granted to Phillip Moll for the sale of malt, spirituous and vinous liquors and that he pay \$100 for the same. (This is the first liquor license recorded in the commissioners' records.)

#### INCORPORATION OF LINCOLN

At this same meeting it was ordered that the Town of Lincoln be declared a body corporate and that the powers and privileges be granted as by the statute in such case made and provided. The following persons were appointed trustees for the said corporation: L. A. Scoggins, B. F. Cozad, Doctor Porter, W. W. Carder and A. L. Palmer.

April 21, 1868—The county commissioners counted thirty-four wolf and sixteen wildcat scalps and paid bounty on the same.

July 6, 1868—The total assessed valuation of property in Lancaster County was declared to be \$466,425.

July 17, 1868—Antelope Precinct was formed.

July 27, 1868—It was ordered that Lancaster County be redistricted into commissioners' districts as follows: the first district to include the first two tiers of townships in the south part of the county running east and west; the second district to include the second two tiers of townships lying east and west; and the third district to include the third two tiers of townships lying east and west in the north part of the county. C. H. Gere was appointed attorney for Lancaster County. It was ordered that one tier of sections be set off from the north side of Antelope Precinct and added to Buffalo Precinct.

#### OFFER TO RAILROAD COMPANIES

September 14, 1868—It was ordered that 500 propositions for ballots be printed, containing—first, proposition of giving \$100,000 to the first railway company to come to Lincoln; second, proposition of using bonds for building bridges in the county; and third, the use of bonds for courthouse and jail. The propositions as printed were as follows:

#### I

"Shall the county commissioners of Lancaster County issue bonds to the amount of \$100,000, payable on or before the expiration of twenty years from date and bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, payable annually, to be used in the construction of the first railroad that shall be completed to Lincoln, the county seat, prior to the 1st day of December, 1869; forming a connection by rail with the Missouri River?

#### II

"Shall the county commissioners in case the said railroad shall be completed according to the above conditions, as soon after such completion as may be, levy an annual tax of \$15,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the interest on the said railroad bonds, and to redeem and cancel one-twentieth part of said bonds, provided such tax does not exceed the amount allowed by law to be levied in such cases upon the county valuation in one year; or in the case it does exceed such amount, so much thereof as may be lawfully levied?

#### III

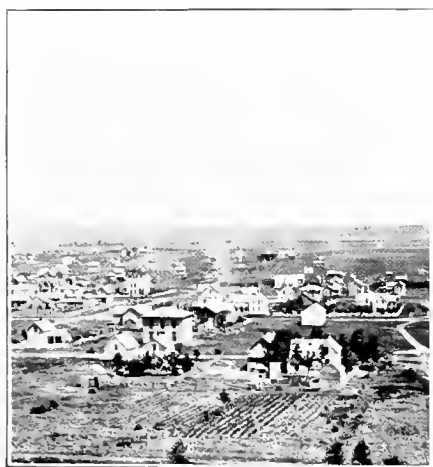
"Shall the county commissioners issue bond to the amount of \$10,000, payable on or before the expiration of ten years from date, and bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, payable annually, to be used to build a courthouse and jail for the county?



View showing high school, about 1870. Looking southeast from Postoffice Square



Looking southwest from Capitol, showing Governor Butler's residence in distance



Looking northwest from Capitol, about 1870



View looking southwest from Capitol, about 1870

#### EARLY SCENES IN LINCOLN

[From Clement's Collection of Early Nebraska Photographs. Property of and used by permission of Nebraska History Seminar, State University]



## IV

"Shall the county commissioners levy an annual tax of \$2,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the interest on said courthouse and jail bonds, and to redeem and cancel one-tenth part thereof.

## V

"Shall the county commissioners issue bonds to the amount of \$10,000, payable on or before the expiration of ten years from date, and bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, payable annually, to be used in the construction of bridges upon the public roads in the county?

## VI

"Shall the county commissioners levy an annual tax of \$2,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay the interest on said bridge bonds and to redeem and cancel one-tenth part thereof?"

October 5, 1868—The railroad proposition was changed so that the depot should come within a mile of the courthouse square. The election was also postponed until November 3d.

November 17, 1868—The commissioners met to consider submitting to popular vote the proposition made by the Omaha & Southwestern Railroad Company to build a railroad to Lincoln by the 1st of September, 1870, provided Lancaster County would donate \$100,000 in county bonds.

January 4, 1869—It was ordered that the sheriff of Lancaster County be authorized and empowered to secure a suitable place for the confinement of prisoners provided it could be done without extra expense to the county.

April 6, 1869—Petition of Alfred Canfield and twenty-two others that town 9, range 8, and the east half of town 9, range 7 east, be set off from Stevens Creek Precinct as a voting precinct to be known as Stockton Precinct was granted by the commissioners.

April 7, 1869—James R. Deland, of Lincoln, came before the board and presented the petition of A. J. Cropsey and 182 others, all residents of Lincoln, asking that section 26, the west half of section 25, the southwest quarter of section 24 and the south half of section 23, all in town 10 north, range 6 east be incorporated as a town under the name of Lincoln. The petition was granted and H. S. Jennings, S. B. Linderman, H. D. Gilbert, J. L. McConnell and D. W. Tingley were appointed trustees.

## BURLINGTON BONDS

A special election was ordered for May 24, 1869, for the purpose of voting on the proposition to issue \$50,000 in bonds in aid of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company, provided the railroad commenced work on or before June 3, 1869.

## OTHER RAILROAD BONDS

A special election was ordered for July 19, 1869, on the question of issuing bonds to the extent of \$50,000 to the Midland Pacific Railway Company, provided that the railroad commenced work on or before July 25, 1869, between Nebraska City and Lincoln and that the work would be continued until regular trains were running over the railroad between Lincoln and the Missouri River.

Also, for the same special election, the proposition of giving \$50,000, for which bonds were to be issued, to the Bellevue, Ashland & Lincoln Railroad Company, if the railroad should commence work on or before July 25, 1869, and have trains running between Lincoln and Bellevue on the Missouri River, was placed on the ballot.

Both of these propositions carried at the election on July 19th.

## COUNTY OFFICE ROOMS

August 3, 1869—It was ordered that the rooms rented by the county commissioners for the use of the county officers of James Sweet & Brock be assigned to the following officers in this manner: The east two rooms should be occupied by the county clerk and the county attorney; the room formerly occupied by Pound & Robinson should be used by the county treasurer; the west two rooms should be assigned to the probate judge and the county sheriff.

The election places in the different precincts for the year 1869 were as follows: Lancaster Precinct, county treasurer's office; Saltillo Precinct, house of John W. Prey; Stevens Creek Precinct, house of Jonathan Ball; Buffalo Precinct, Brunton's schoolhouse; Antelope Precinct, house of James Platt; Stockton Precinct, house of Aaron Woods; Camp Creek Precinct, the Camp Creek schoolhouse; Oak Creek Precinct, house of Silas Pratt; Upper Salt Creek Precinct, house of Robert Falkner.

April 6, 1870—The petition of Amos Lippincott and others that town 10, range 5, be formed into a new precinct to be known as Middle Creek Precinct granted. The same was to be taken from Lancaster Precinct.

May 4, 1870—It was ordered by the county commissioners that a new precinct be formed to contain town 9, range 7, and to be known as Pleasant Hill Precinct.

## MORE RAILROAD BONDS

August 9, 1870—A special election was ordered by the commissioners on the proposition of issuing county bonds for \$150,000 to the Midland Pacific Railroad Company as soon as the railroad should tie and iron ten miles of their road in Lancaster County, also part of the fund when trains should run from Nebraska City to J Street in Lincoln. To this proposition the railroad filed a remonstrance, claiming that the commissioners had changed the original proposition. The commissioners met on August 25th and denied this allegation.

September 7, 1870—Town 12, range 8, was set apart and Mill Precinct was formed.

A special election was again ordered for October 11, 1870, on the bonds for

\$150,000 to the Midland Pacific Railroad Company. The proposition carried by a vote of 528 to 469.

The people voted 659 to 315 in favor of giving \$100,000 to the Nemaha Valley, Lincoln & Loup Fork Railroad.

Also, by a vote of 535 to 456, \$125,000 was given in aid of the Omaha & Southwestern Railroad Company, from Lincoln to the south line of the county.

#### NEW PRECINCT DIVISION

December 9, 1870—On motion it was ordered that from this date the several congressional townships of the County of Lancaster each should constitute a precinct for election and other purposes. The same were divided and set off and were known and designated as follows: Town 7, range 5, was set off as Olive Branch Precinct; town 7, range 6, as Buda Precinct; town 7, range 7, as South Pass Precinct; town 7, range 8, as Panama Precinct; town 8, range 5, as Highland Precinct; town 8, range 6, as Centreville Precinct; town 8, range 7, as Saltillo Precinct; town 8, range 8, as Nemaha Precinct; town 9, range 5, as Denton Precinct; town 9, range 6, as Yankee Hill Precinct; town 9, range 7, as Pleasant Hill Precinct; town 9, range 8, as Stockton Precinct; town 10, range 5, as Middle Creek Precinct; town 10, range 6, as Lincoln Precinct; town 10, range 7, as Lancaster Precinct; town 10, range 8, as Stevens Creek Precinct; town 11, range 5, as Elk Precinct; Town 11, range 6, as Oak Precinct; town 11, range 7, as North Bluff Precinct; town 11, range 8, as Waverly Precinct; town 12, range 5, as West Oak Precinct; town 12, range 6, as Little Salt Precinct; town 12, range 7, as Rock Creek Precinct; and town 12, range 8, as Mill Precinct.

District No. 1 in each precinct was designated as sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. District No. 2 should include sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17 and 18. District No. 3 should include sections 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33. District No. 4 should include sections 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36. This excepted Oak Creek, West Oak and Little Salt Precincts, which came to be known as one road district, designated as No. 1.

#### FIRST COURTHOUSE AND JAIL ACTION

September 5, 1871—The lease of the east rooms over the State Bank of Nebraska for the county clerk's office for year ending July 12, 1872, was accepted.

The petition of a large number of the citizens of the county was presented, asking for the issuing of bonds for the erection of a courthouse and jail. It was ordered submitted to the people at the next general election, October 10, 1871, provided that the new constitution of Nebraska be ratified and adopted on September 19, 1871, and then election should be held on November 7th. The bonds were to be for the sum of \$50,000.

#### RAILROAD AID

October 4, 1871—P. T. Abell, president of the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad Company, under date of August 29, 1871, accepted the proposition of the \$120,000 in county bonds, the railroad to be completed in two years, the depot grounds

in Lincoln to be granted to the road, and that the right of way should not cost the company over five thousand dollars. It was also stipulated that the county board should make order rescinding the former vote made to the Nemaha Valley Road. The commissioners ordered a special election to be held on November 7, 1871, to learn the will of the people on this question. The vote resulted in a count of 767 to 367 in favor of the proposition.

At the same time a vote of 767 to 360 was given in favor of borrowing \$20,000 for a jail building.

#### COURTHOUSE SQUARE EXCHANGE

A special election was ordered for November 7th on the following proposition: Shall the county commissioners be authorized to convey by deed blocks No. 2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38, 42, 46, 50, 54, 58 and 62 in the old Lancaster Townsite to the state in exchange for courthouse square in the City of Lincoln and suitable grounds for a jail? The people voted 871 to 249 in favor of this transaction.

October 30 1871—A special election was ordered held on November 28, 1871, on the issuing of bonds for \$100,000 in aid of the Midland Pacific Railroad Company, for the extension and completion of their road from Lincoln to the Union Pacific Railroad.

#### LANCASTER COUNTY POOR HOUSE AND POOR FARM

April 2, 1872—The following is recorded upon the official record: "Whereas, There has been built and completed by the county commissioners for the benefit of our said county, a commodious and comfortable building situated upon the north half of section 33 in town 11, north of range 6 east, which said house and tract of land are to be hereafter devoted to the care and comfort of the paupers necessarily falling to the care of our said county and is to be known as the Lancaster County Poor House and Poor Farm. Now, therefore, it is ordered and notice is hereby given, in accordance with section 21 of chapter 40, revised statutes, State of Nebraska, that said house is now ready for the reception of such paupers and that the ex-officio authorities and duties of justices of the peace as overseers of the poor shall cease from this date."

#### STATE FAIR PROPOSITION

June 4, 1872—A special election was ordered for July 6, 1872, to vote on the proposition to bond the county for \$15,000, for improvements to the Lancaster County Fair Grounds, also for holding the State Fair here commencing on September 3, 1872.

September 1, 1873—The board of commissioners accepted the second bid of W. H. B. Stout to build the jail complete according to plans and specifications, with six cells, for \$17,500. L. W. Foster was the architect.

September 1, 1874—Lincoln Precinct was divided into three separate precincts, namely: Lincoln, Capitol and Midland.

September 12, 1874—Election ordered for October 13, 1874, on the question



of buying the grounds on which were erected buildings and other improvements of the Lancaster County Agricultural Society for \$9,000.

September 13, 1875—Special election ordered for October 16, 1875, to bond the county for \$20,000 in aid of the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad Company.

September 16, 1875—A special election was ordered for October 16, 1875, in the precincts of Lincoln, Elk, Midland, Capitol, Little Salt, Oak, North Bluff, Rock Creek and West Oak for bonds in aid of the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad Company. All these precincts voted in favor of the bonds except West Oak, North Bluff and Elk.

#### AID FOR L. B. & R. V. R. R. CO.

May 9, 1876—A special election was ordered to be held on June 17, 1876, on the question of issuing the county bonds for \$100,000 in aid of the Lincoln, Beatrice & Republican Valley Railroad Company. However, at a meeting of the board of commissioners on May 31, 1876, the above election order was revoked for several reasons.

#### FIRTH

January 28, 1879—A petition to incorporate the Town of Firth was granted, the boundaries to be the northwest quarter of section 35, town 7, range 7. W. H. Moore, Owen Evans, George Mellinger, C. M. Bailey, G. G. Beams were appointed first trustees. Thirty-five signed the petition and eighteen signed a remonstrance against the incorporation.

#### O. & R. V. R. R. CO.

July 10, 1879—It is recorded that the precincts of Lincoln, Midland and Capitol voted bonds in favor of the Omaha & Republican Valley Railroad Company by the respective votes of 208 to 154, 299 to 104, 342 to 94.

July 22, 1879—The freeholders of Little Salt Precinct petitioned for an election for precinct bonds for \$3,000 in aid of the Omaha & Republican Valley Railroad and their line from Valparaiso, in Saunders County, into Lincoln, the road to be completed in 1880. The commissioners called the election for August 20, 1879, and the result was thirty to fourteen in favor of the bonds.

#### L. & N. W. R. R. CO.

The freeholders of Lincoln Precinct asked for a bond election to give \$7,000 to the Lincoln & Northwestern Railroad Company for their line from Lincoln to the north line of the county. The commissioners ordered the election for August 20, 1879, and the bonds were voted by 192 to 140.

At the same time and under the same procedure Midland Precinct voted \$11,500 in bonds by 296 to 94, Capital Precinct voted \$9,500 in bonds by 318 to 114, Rock Creek Precinct voted \$7,000 in bonds by 61 to 2, to the same road; but North Bluff Precinct voted against a bond issue by 28 to 19.

August 30, 1879—Centreville Precinct petitioned for an election to issue bonds

for \$5,000 to the Omaha & Republican Valley, but at the election on September 30th voted sixty-nine to twelve against the proposition.

April 13, 1880—Capital Precinct was vacated and the territory taken over by Midland and Lincoln precincts.

The assessed valuation for 1880 of the whole county amounted to \$4,331,970, and that of railroads \$597,413, making a total of \$4,929,383. Personal property in this sum amounted to \$1,170,402, among 28,097 people; real estate, \$2,099,808; and lots, \$1,061,760.

August 31, 1880—It was ordered by the commissioners that at the first election in November a vote should be taken on the proposition to bond the county for \$25,000 in order to construct a courthouse on the square reserved for that purpose in Lincoln. No further record of this order was made.

#### BENNETT

August 15, 1881—The petition of John P. Pratt, et al., for the incorporation of Bennett as a village, was rejected for the reason that it was not signed by a majority of the stockholders.

October 18, 1881—Remonstrance to the above order received.

October 25, 1881—Bennett was ordered incorporated as a village and J. E. Vanderlip, John P. Pratt, F. A. Sidles, J. G. Southwick and Austin Gribbling were appointed trustees.

#### COURT HOUSE LEVY

October 6, 1882—The commissioners on this date ordered an election in November on placing a 5-mill levy in addition to previous levies on the county for five years in order to make up the sum of \$125,000, which was to be used in the construction of a courthouse.

#### PRECINCT FORMATION

October 3, 1883—The precincts of Garfield, Lancaster, Government, Midland, Antelope and Capital were formed.

July 15, 1884—The \$100,000 in bonds given to the Midland Pacific Railroad Company, bearing the date of January 1, 1873, were declared illegal and repudiated.

#### WAVERLY

June 23, 1885—The petition signed by H. Atkinson and thirty-two others asking that Waverly be incorporated as a village was granted. Charles Cook, James Schofield, J. N. Case, Harry Wells and Harrison Rose were appointed trustees.

#### HICKMAN

July 8, 1885—The petition filed by C. Wisner and thirty-four others asking for the incorporation of Hickman as a village was granted.

## ROCA

September 22, 1885—The petition for the incorporation of Roca as a village, signed by John Harrup, Fred Schwake and others was granted. A remonstrance had been filed by H. C. Demaree, George Cleveland and others August 12th.

## COURTHOUSE BOND ELECTIONS

October 2, 1885—The commissioners ordered that the proposition of bonding the county for \$125,000 for the erection of a courthouse be submitted to the vote of the people at the next general election on November 3, 1885.

April 23, 1887—The commissioners ordered an election for May 31, 1887, to vote on the proposition to issue bonds to the amount of \$200,000 for the construction of a county court house.

June 3, 1887—It was reported that 3,028 votes had been cast at the above election on May 31st—2,416 in favor of the bond issue and 612 against it. O. C. Bell, county clerk, notified the architects that plans and specifications to build a courthouse would be received by him until noon on Tuesday, July 5, 1887.

## COMMISSIONERS' TOUR

June 30, 1887—The board agreed that they should make a tour through some of the eastern states and examine different courthouses, to better enable them to receive plans and specifications of the Lancaster County building.

July 14, 1887—The board met again, after a tour through the states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Ohio. They fixed dates for the various architects to explain their plans as follows: E. E. Myers & Son, Detroit, July 15, 1887, by telegraph to Omaha; G. W. Bunting, Indianapolis, July 15th, in P. M.; O. E. Placey, Lincoln, July 16th; Schwage & Nichols, Kansas City, July 19th; F. M. Ellis, Omaha, July 20th; J. Hodgson, Omaha, July 21st.

July 27, 1887—E. E. Myers & Son of Detroit were announced as the successful architects. An agreement was made with them on the 28th.

## WEST LINCOLN

A petition to incorporate West Lincoln as a village, signed by T. L. McNeill and seventy-two others, granted. J. F. Cadman, T. L. McNeill, W. C. Austin, R. Sterrett and Edward Birel were appointed trustees.

## COURTHOUSE CONTRACTS

November 15, 1887—At three o'clock the bids for the construction of the county courthouse were opened and found to be as follows: Eugene Woerner, \$269,763.30; Fitzgerald & Brennan, \$277,389.80; R. K. Allen, \$165,000 (partial); James H. O'Neill, plumbing, gas, sewerage, \$4,560; W. H. B. Stout, \$313,389.10; O. J. King & Company \$329,172. All of these bids were flatly rejected by the commissioners.

## SECOND BIDS

January 3, 1888—The commissioners met to open bids for the second time. The offers were: R. K. Allen, \$260,000; O. J. King & Company, \$320,411; Fitzgerald & Brennan, \$296,076.90; W. H. B. Stout, \$303,836.78.

January 13, 1888—All of the bids were again rejected. Also the plans of E. E. Myers & Son, architects, of Detroit, were rejected because none of the bids came within the amount appropriated for the Lancaster County courthouse.

January 17, 1888—Myers & Son replied that they would not consider the "assumption that contract had been forfeited" and that if board recognized the binding character of the contract they would make proper changes. They drew a sight draft for \$4,500 on Lancaster County, pending forfeiture of the contract.

January 19, 1888—Myers & Son asked to modify plans pending advertisement for new bids and new contract with them. It was ordered that the plans and specifications made be placed subject to the order of Myers & Son. At the same time notice was given to architects, indiscriminately, for presentation of new plans.

## SECOND PLANS

February 21, 1888—For the second time the commissioners opened courthouse plans submitted by the following: Mendelssohn, Fisher & Lawrie, Omaha; G. W. Bunting & Son, Indianapolis; Hodgson & Son, Omaha; Ecker & Mann, St. Joseph; Schwage & Nichols, Kansas City; W. G. H. Hawkins, Lincoln; F. M. Ellis, Omaha; J. W. Yost, Columbus, Ohio; James Tyler, Lincoln; William Gray, Lincoln; O. H. Placey, Lincoln; George F. Hammond, Cleveland; M. E. Beebe, Buffalo; Weary & Kramer, Akron, Ohio.

A. Roberts, M. L. Hiltner and E. Woerner were appointed to assist the county board in selecting the best plan from among the number.

March 1, 1888—The plans and specifications prepared by F. M. Ellis, architect, of Omaha, were selected as best suited for the purpose.

## BIDS

May 17, 1888—Bids by Rice & Bassett, Chicago; W. H. B. Stout, Lincoln; D. B. Howard, Lincoln; Eugene Woerner, Lincoln; Brennan & Lanham, Omaha, were opened and examined. The commissioners finally decided to accept the bid of W. H. B. Stout, of Lincoln, which named the sum of \$167,497.42.

## UNIVERSITY PLACE

January 5, 1889—The petition signed by Charles F. Creighton and forty-four others asking that University Place be incorporated was granted. Dr. C. F. Creighton, T. F. Barnes, C. M. Ellinwood, A. R. Wightman and W. S. Mills were appointed trustees.

## RAYMOND

March 9, 1892—A petition signed by forty-three voters asking for the incorporation of Raymond was granted and W. J. Weller, C. B. Reynolds, S. C. London, J. Plank and J. R. Jukster were appointed trustees.

## COLLEGE VIEW

April 28, 1892—College View was granted incorporation in response to a petition signed by M. W. Newton and seventy-nine others. J. D. Morton, L. Nicola, W. T. Henton, E. A. Jenkins and J. S. Unangst were appointed the first trustees.

## JAIL BONDS

January 28, 1895—An election was ordered to be held on April 2, 1895, for the purpose of voting on the proposition to vote \$90,000 in bonds for the erection of a jail building. This jail proposition was defeated at the polls on April 2d.

August 24, 1900—The sum of \$1,500 was appropriated for the purpose of repairing the courthouse roof, part of which had been carried away by a storm.

## HALLAM

July 19, 1901—Petition and remonstrance both filed relative to the incorporation of Hallam. The former was granted and G. H. Ruhaak, H. B. Hoyle, John J. Meyer, William Rocke and Gerhart Rippen were appointed trustees.

## PANAMA

December 5, 1903—The petition for the incorporation of Panama was granted. T. C. Morgan, R. G. Dickson, A. F. Hitchcock, and M. J. Witham were named as trustees.

## FLOOD SUFFERERS

July 8, 1908—The sum of \$1,000 was set aside for the relief of the flood sufferers in Lancaster County.

## SPRAGUE

September 25, 1913—The petition to incorporate the Town of Sprague was granted by the commissioners and the following were appointed trustees: Frank Miles, William W. Krull, A. J. McClain, W. E. Lamb and R. W. Haus.

## DENTON

November 12, 1913—Denton incorporation petition was granted by the board. Walter Hocking, J. R. C. Miller, C. M. Rowland, Rev. R. Moran and M. H. Quinn were constituted the first trustees. A remonstrance was filed to this incorporation.

## DAVEY

March 20, 1914—Davey was ordered incorporated in answer to a petition asking for the same. Peter Nelson, J. M. Hanson, C. A. Neff, C. W. Christiansen and H. P. Christiansen were made trustees. .

## CHAPTER V

### THE STORY OF THE SALT BASIN

#### THE LEGEND

One of the earliest descriptions of the salt basin near Lincoln is that written by John T. Irving, Jr., and published by Carey, Lea & Blanchard, of Philadelphia, in the year 1835, over eighty years ago. The small two-volume work is comprised of Indian sketches taken during an expedition to the Pawnee tribes.

The Pawnees and Otoes laid claim to all the land between the Platte and Kansas rivers and in this claim they were fiercely opposed by the Delawares, a rival tribe. Constant war existed on this account between the first two on the one side and the latter on the other. The Government, growing weary of this strife, appointed commissioners to visit the migratory tribes, purchase the Pawnee lands and induce this tribe of redskins to move north of the Platte. Accordingly, in the summer of 1833 Mr. Ellsworth traveled from Washington, D. C., to Fort Leavenworth, which was then a frontier post, there to await his fellow commissioners, and to begin the expedition northward. John T. Irving, Jr., accompanied this band of men and kept a diary of the days' happenings while in the Indian country. He writes: "It was intended first to strike up in a northerly direction until we reached the village of the Otoe or Missouri Indians, situated upon the Platte River about twenty miles northwest of its junction with the Missouri. Thence the Platte was to be our guide until we came upon the Pawnee towns."

Mr. Irving devotes several paragraphs to the first few days of their journey, which were replete with new experiences and strange sights, then continues: "We at last reached the Platte River about forty miles distant from the Otoe village, then striking off to the west, we followed the course of this powerful tributary of the Missouri.

"On the first night our little camp was placed upon a high bank of the Saline River, which flows through the prairie until it empties into the Platte. During the spring of every year moisture exudes from the soil near its source, covering the prairie for the distance of many miles. This is dried up by the heat of summer and leaves in its place a thick incrustation of salt. This is in turn dissolved by every successive rain and carried off into the Saline River, giving to its water the brackish taste, from which it has derived its name. There is a barrenness around the stream, contrasting strongly with the other rivers that grace the prairie. Around them is always a rich forest of the deepest, rankest green. Everything marks the luxuriance of the soil, and the nourishment yielded by the streams, to the lofty trees, which hang like guardians over their waters.

"But the Saline is far different. There are no groves to fringe its banks.

Here and there the huge, grey forms of a few dead trees may be seen leaning with a melancholy grandeur over its surface, or lying prostrate in the river, while its waters gurgle with a mournful sound around the branches of these fallen giants. There is a cheerless look about it. It winds its way through the prairie with a withering influence, blighting every green shrub; and seems to bear an ill will to all the bright beauties of creation.

"I strayed some distance down the stream, pattering my rifle bullets on the water, to the great annoyance of several ducks who were quietly dozing upon its surface, and some sprawling old terrapins who were floating down the stream, enjoying an evening sail.

"A loud hail from the camp, and the voice of Mordecai announcing that supper was ready, recalled me to the spot. The roasted shoulder and ribs of a large buck were impaled upon a stake of dogwood, planted in the ground in front of the mess. They had already commenced their meal, with knives of all sizes and descriptions, and the mass of meat disappeared like magic before their reiterated attacks. Though at all times very well qualified to act a conspicuous part in a warfare of that description, they were now more than usually fitted for the task, owing to their eating only two meals a day—one at sunrise and one at sunset—the rest of the time being occupied in journeying over the prairie. By the time that we had finished the sun had sunk in the West and the stars were glimmering in the sky. Our party collected around the large fire of blazing logs and our guide, having lighted his Indian pipe, related to us an Indian tale, of which the following is the purport:

"About forty miles above the spot where we are now encamped lie the great salt plains, which cause the brackish taste of the Saline River. In one part of these plains is a large rock of pure salt, of dazzling whiteness, which is highly prized by the Indians and to which is attached the following story:

"Many years since, long before the whites had extended their march beyond the banks of the Mississippi River, a tribe of Indians resided upon the Platte, near its junction with the Saline. Among these was one, the chief warrior of the nation, celebrated throughout all the neighboring country for his fierce and unsparing disposition. Not a hostile village within several hundred miles but wailed for those who had fallen beneath his arm; not a brook but had run red with the blood of his victims. He was forever engaged in plotting destruction to his enemies. He led his warriors from one village to another, carrying death to the inhabitants and desolation to their homes. He was a terror to old and young.

"Often alone and unattended, would he steal off, to bathe his hands in blood and add new victims to the countless number of those whom he had already slain. But fearful as he was to the hostile tribes, he was equally dreaded by his own people. They gloried in him as their leader, but shrank from all fellowship with him. His lodge was deserted, and even in the midst of his own nation he was alone. Yet there was one thing that clung to him, and loved him, in defiance of the sternness of his rugged nature. It was the daughter of the chief of the village; a beautiful girl, and graceful as one of the fawns of her own prairie.

"Though she had many admirers, yet when the warrior declared his intention of asking her of her father, none dared come in competition with so formidable a rival. She became his wife and he loved her with all the fierce energy of his



nature. It was a new feeling to him. It stole like a sunbeam over the dark passions of his heart. His feelings gushed forth to meet the warm affection of the only being that had ever loved him. Her sway over him was unbounded. He was as a tiger tamed. But this did not last long. She died; he buried her; he uttered no wail, he shed no tear. He returned to his lonely lodge and forbade all entrance. No sound of grief was heard from it—all was silent as the tomb. The morning came and with its earliest dawn he left the lodge. His body was covered with war paint and he was fully armed as if for some expedition. His eye was the same; there was the same sullen fire that had ever shot from its deep sunk socket. There was no wavering of a single feature; there was not the shrinking of a single muscle. He took no notice of those around him, but walked gloomily to the spot where his wife was buried. He paused for a moment over the grave, plucked a wild flower from among the grass and cast it upon the upturned sod. Then turning upon his heel, strode across the prairie.

"After the lapse of a month he returned to his village, laden with the scalps of men, women and children, which he hung in the smoke of his lodge. He tarried but a day among the tribe, and again set off, lonely as ever. A week elapsed and he returned bringing with him a large lump of white salt. In a few words he told his tale. He had traveled many miles over the prairie. The sun had set in the west and the moon was just rising above the verge of the horizon. The Indian was weary and threw himself on the grass. He had not slept long when he was awakened by the low wailing of a female. He started up and at a little distance, by the light of the moon, beheld an old, decrepit hag, brandishing a tomahawk over the head of a young female, who was kneeling, imploring mercy.

"The warrior wondered how two females could be at this spot, alone, and at that hour of the night, for there was no village within forty miles of the place. There could be no hunting party near them or he would have discovered it. He approached them, but they seemed unconscious of his presence. The young female, finding her prayers unheeded, sprang up and made a desperate attempt to get possession of the tomahawk. A furious struggle ensued, but the old woman was victorious. Twisting one hand in the long black hair of her victim, she raised the weapon in the other and prepared to strike. The face of the young female was turned to the light and the warrior beheld with horror the features of his deceased wife. In an instant he sprang forward and his tomahawk was buried in the skull of the old squaw. But ere he had time to clasp the form of his wife the ground opened, both sank from his sight, and on the spot appeared a rock of white salt. He had broken a piece from it and brought it to his tribe.

"This tradition is still current among the different tribes of Indians frequenting that portion of the country. They also imagine that the rock is still under custody of the old squaw, and that the only way to obtain a portion of it is to attack her. For this reason, before attempting to collect salt, they beat the ground with clubs and tomahawks, and each blow is considered as inflicted upon the person of the hag. The ceremony is continued until they imagine she has been sufficiently belabored to resign her treasure without opposition. The superstition, though privately ridiculed by the chiefs of the different tribes, is still practised by them and most devoutly credited by the rabble."

## EARLY EXPECTATIONS

In the early '60s the salt springs near the present site of Lincoln attracted attention over the entire country and the estimated wealth and productiveness of the salt fields were given fabulous descriptions in the papers. This natural mineral was placed as the incentive for great cities to appear in the neighborhood; immeasurable wealth to be gained by any who cared to take advantage of the deposits; and the growth of the Nebraska salt industry until it reached the importance of the other salt manufacturing centers of the United States. These items influenced settlers to come to the territory and, when the commissioners appointed for the location of a state capital in 1867 scoured this part of the state for a suitable site for the capital city, the salt basin west of Lincoln's present site was one of the principal factors in determining their selection.

The Morton History of Nebraska states: "We find merchants of Nebraska City advertising in the News of April 21, 1860, that they had for sale 'the best and finest article of table salt, gathered from the banks of Salt Creek, forty miles directly west of this city. Nature is the only evaporator used in the manufacture of this salt.' The News of April 28th relates that a sample of some thirty bushels of the very neatest and best of table salt had been brought for its inspection, and it had been 'scraped up from the banks of Salt Creek with a shovel. The probability is that the salt, as well as gold, silver, and coal mines of Nebraska are inexhaustible.' The News of May 25, 1861 notes that a train of three wagons passed through Nebraska City to engage in the manufacture of salt at the springs fifty miles west. The same paper says that, 'A gentleman the other day brought in from Salt Creek 1,800 pounds of as fine salt as we have ever seen. It met with ready sale. There is a mine of wealth out there.' The News of September 14, 1861, reports that there are 'four salt basins of a thousand acres each—except one small one—filled with small springs that during the night ooze out their briny waters and cover the plateaus with a thick scum of salt. They ebb and flow like the tides of the ocean, during the night time covering the entire surface to the extent of thousands of acres and to a depth of several inches. By nine o'clock of an ordinarily dry day, with sunshine, the waters have sunk away, or rather evaporated, leaving a crust of salt. There are at present ten furnaces.'"

These various newspaper accounts are presented for the purpose of showing the enlarged conception of the salt springs. So it is in any pioneer country: the presence of mineral wealth is a greater incentive than the known existence of tillable lands and rich soil, although the mineral advantages generally lure rather than satisfy, in very few cases have they proved an actuality, at least, a profitable one. People in Nebraska dreamed great dreams of the enormous salt industry to be established here, but the coming of years and the railroads and more settlers overshadowed the importance of the salt fever and now the greatly prized acres are covered with a lake and the salt water used for bathing purposes in connection with an amusement park.

## SALT CREEK SETTLERS

The first settlers of the Salt Creek Valley were the Preys, headed by the father John D. Prey. The latter is known as the first permanent white settler in what now comprises Lancaster County. He was a native of Scotland, having been

born there, in Glasgow, on the 4th of December, 1798. He was the son of John and Martha (Little) Prey. Immediately after his marriage in 1821 to Margaret Gibson he sailed for America, to make a new home for his family. Mrs. Prey was a native of Ireland and was born in 1802; her parents, however, were Scottish. After forty-five days spent in passage the Preys landed in New Brunswick and from there proceeded to the city of Boston, where they resided for some time. Their next home was in New York State, where they stayed until 1843. Then they moved to the State of Wisconsin and from this place Mr. Prey, in company with his son, John W., started upon their journey to Nebraska to search for suitable claims. This was in 1856. On June 15, 1856 they stopped on Salt Creek, about three miles from the present site of Lincoln, but shortly afterwards went farther up this stream. Here they took claims for themselves and three other sons. Further information concerning the family history of the Preys may be found in the chapter on early settlement.

The following article by John Stanford Gregory was prepared for the Nebraska State Historical Society in 1904 and is reminiscent of the early days in the vicinity of the salt basin. Mr. Gregory, the son of John S. and Charlotte (Eaton) Gregory, was born at Brattleboro, Vermont, in 1834. After a high school education he engaged for several years as a mail agent, and then studied law and was admitted to the bar in Michigan in 1860. In August, 1862, he located in the vicinity of the present city of Lincoln and at the salt basin constructed the first salt works, at the cost of about \$8,000.00. He worked these until the coming of the railroad to Lincoln. He next entered the real estate and insurance business and in 1874 went into business partnership with Mr. J. H. McMurtry. In 1891 he removed to the State of Texas and there practiced law. In 1864 Mr. Gregory was a representative from Lancaster County in the Territorial Legislature, being the first to serve in this capacity. He was chairman of the first board of county commissioners of Lancaster County and was also the first postmaster. Mr. Gregory's narration of the early days at the salt basin is replete with vivid detail and is authoritative.

#### EARLY DAYS AT THE SALT BASIN

By John S. Gregory

I first made my home in what is now Lincoln in the summer of 1862, being the first permanent settler of this city's site. Neighbors in the county were few and far between, but for music we had nightly serenades from hundreds of coyotes and wolves, who also loved chicken better than traveling ministers or down-south darkies; therefore war was declared against the wolves. Every evening in the winter months we would mount a horse, fasten a piece of fresh meat to a lariat, and draw it over the ground in a circuit of a mile or so, occasionally dropping a small pellet of lard encasing a flake of strychnine. The wolves would take the trail, and sometimes we would gather a dozen of them in the morning. Their pelts paid the cost, and their carcasses were drawn away to the banks of Salt Creek, where we expected them to rot in the spring. But a band of Pawnee Indians found them, and never broke camp until the last carcass went into the soup, which we were informed was "heap good for Injun."

In 1863 there was quite an influx of temporary citizens from the State of Missouri who came, as they stated, to "get out of the draft" (this was war time, you know) and settled around Salt Basin. Of this number I remember the families of Owens, Harmon, Eveland, Bird, Billows, Tinnell, Thatcher, Pemberton, Church and a few others. It was said that some of these had been bushwhackers in Missouri, and had in fact come up to the Salt Basin "for the benefit of their health"; but they were as peaceful as doves while here, and all went back to Missouri after the war was over.

During that year Doctor Crimm and "Jim" Dye, of Brownville, came to the Basin, and built a bench of salt boilers and became my friendly rivals in the salt manufacture.

At an election late in the fall we elected Alf Eveland justice of the peace, and Peter Billows constable, and this was the first attempt to call in the aid of the law, in that county. Prior to that date every man was his own law-giver, and a brace of revolvers enforced it. "Alf" was a small, freckled-faced, red-haired chap, very self-important, and ambitious to be called Squire Eveland. He had opened a saloon in his sod dwelling, his stock in trade being a keg of whiskey and a caddy of tobacco. His wife, Elizabeth, was of massive proportions, at least four times the size of her husband, and strong as she was big—could easily hold her lord at arm's length over her head, with her right arm alone. It was said that after Eveland's stock in trade had been paid for, he had ten cents left, with which he purchased a drink at his bar, while his wife kept the saloon, and then she in turn used it for the same purpose while Alf was bartender, and by alternating this process quite a trade was established.

When Alf became justice of the peace he went to Nebraska City and provided himself with a justice docket book and a full set of law blanks, and returned, fully equipped to "dispense with justice," as he put it, to all who should require his services, but as it is difficult to make radical changes in forms of law, more than six months passed without a single case for Eveland's adjudication. The nearest to a case that I remember was from this Peter Billows, who, by the way, was originally a Pennsylvania Dutchman. Peter came over to my office one morning and said, "Gregory, John Owens' hogs broke into my garden last night and destroyed more than fifteen dollars' worth of damage. What can I do about it?" I advised him to go and see John, and if he would not fix it, he would have a case for Eveland, but as he and John fixed it the justice case was a failure.

The first law case of this county appears in "Justice Docket No. 1—A. Eveland, Esq., J. P." and is entitled "Crimm & Dye vs. J. S. Gregory, Action for Replevin," and it arose as follows: Both Crimm and myself used a considerable amount of salt barrels, which we made at our salt works, and the man, Church, was a stave maker, obtaining his bolts from the headwaters of Salt Creek. On the morning Church started back to Missouri, he came to my works, and sold me his stock of staves, amounting in value to about \$16.00. I went with him to his dug-out, counted and marked the staves, and took a bill of sale in writing, and paid for them. During the same morning he sold the same staves to Crimm, who also marked them, and took a bill of sale in writing. A few days after I went for them with my wagons, and when Crimm saw me loading them, he came up and wanted

to know what I was doing with his staves. Of course it was a short story to explain the situation and we agreed to divide the lot and each stand half the loss. But just at this point, a brilliant idea struck Crimm. He said, "Say Gregory, what a pretty case this would be for a lawsuit. Here is Squire Eveland, who has spent a whole lot of money for books and blanks and has been a justice of the peace for more than six months without a single case. What do you say to a lawsuit?"

So it was arranged with Crimm that he should rush down to the saloon, sue out a writ of replevin, and the constable should take the property, and we would give the Squire something to judicially decide. In due time the trial was had, Crimm introduced his bill of sale, proved payment, and delivery to himself by Church, on the day of his departure, and demanded judgment. Whereupon the Squire announced that the plaintiff had a clear case and as his mind was already made up upon that point, he did not care to hear any evidence from the defendant. Of course defendant insisted that it was not lawful to render a judgment without both sides being heard, and demanded the right to produce his evidence. "Oh, go ahead," said the Squire, "if you insist upon it, but it will do you no good, for I have already formed my opinion of the case." We followed Crimm's presentation exactly, and then pleaded that, as we were in possession of the property, in addition had as good a right as the plaintiff, the plaintiff could not take it away from us without showing some superior right. The Squire, who had been so sure of his opinion, was evidently in a quandary and advised us to try and settle the case between ourselves, to which we each "angrily" objected, and asked him what a justice court was for, if folks could agree without it. Finally, three days were taken in which to announce a decision, at which time about all the men of the settlement were present to hear the result. Court was called to order and the Squire said, "Gentlemen, I have given the case my best consideration and the more I have studied it the more difficult it seems to arrive at any conclusion as to which of you rightfully own these staves. I think you should agree to divide them." And announced that this was the only judgment he would enter. To this we each protested, but consented to confer each with the other to see if we could compromise. After a short time we filed back into court and announced that if the Squire would remit his costs and treat the boys who had come to attend his court, we would settle the case between ourselves, to all of which he gladly consented. I don't know how much whiskey was left in that keg, but doubt there being any; for the saloon business closed from that day.

Will Pemberton was another of the characters of Salt Basin. He was the youngest of the colony and had many good traits of character which I admired, but he was quick-tempered and impulsive. I don't suppose he was any more truthful than the ordinary denizens of the colony, but to be called a liar was to him a deadly insult. One day he came over to my place upon his horse, at its fastest run. His face was pale and his eyes were green, and he was trembling with excitement. He said, "Greg, I want to know if I can depend upon you as my friend in trouble?" I answered that he could up to the last hair. He then asked me if there was any law in Nebraska against killing birds. I told him there was not. He said he was awful glad to know it, for he had just killed Jim Bird over at the Basin. Said Jim had called him a liar and he had shot him through

the head, was awful sorry now that he had done so, but it couldn't be helped, said it broke him all up, and that he couldn't think what to do. He wanted me to think for him, and advise him; said he would light out and leave the country, or would stay and face the music, or any other thing I might advise. I told him it was bad business, and that before I could give him any reliable advice I would go over and see if he was not mistaken about Bird being dead. To this he said his revolver never failed to plant a bullet where he aimed it and he saw Bird fall with his shot. I mounted my horse and rode over and the first man I saw was this same Jim Bird, busy cutting wood at the front door of his log cabin. His rifle leaned against the door-jamb and as he caught sight of me he called; said he wanted me to see what that coyote Pemberton had done. A hole was through his hat and a red streak on his head where the bullet grazed, and which had temporarily prostrated Jim, and had buried itself in the house logs. "Now," he said, "if Pemberton don't quit the country there will be a funeral tomorrow, for I will shoot him on sight." Well, I got down from my horse and made Bird sit down with me and I argued the case with him in all its bearings, told him what Pemberton thought of it, and finally Bird agreed that if Pemberton would come to him, and pass to him his pistols, as evidence of good faith, and beg his pardon for his rashness, and promise to keep the peace, Bird would let the matter drop. To all these Pemberton gladly complied, and again peace and good will hovered over Salt Basin.

John Cadman was another leading light in ancient history. He was a politician of the foxy kind. He always took a prominent part in every social or political move, both for notoriety and as a source of revenue.

He was ready on all occasions to make an impromptu speech, but always wanted about two weeks' time in advance to prepare it, otherwise he was all at sea. On one occasion I remember he was called upon, but being unprepared, declined. As the audience insisted, a good, strong escort on each arm walked him upon the platform "willy nilly," so John started in, "My friends and fellow citizens, it affords me great pleasure to—to—to come together again." The applause that greeted this announcement about closed the remarks of the honorable gentleman, and John took a seat. Cadman died several years ago in California.

#### LITIGATION OVER THE SALT LANDS

On September 12, 1859, Mr. John W. Prey, having military land warrants in his possession, located on land which included many of the salt springs. The location was in sections 21 and 22, township 10 north, range 6 east. These warrants were given to Mr. Prey by J. Sterling Morton, acting as agent for eastern capitalists. There ensued a great amount of litigation and the mix-up was finally tried before the Supreme Court of the United States. An interesting account of this trouble in regard to the lands was written by Mr. John H. Ames and presented to the Nebraska Historical Society in 1905. For many reasons it is well to quote this narrative in its entirety. It is intelligible and correct in substance.

## THE LINCOLN SALT BASIN

By John H. Ames

The Saline Springs in Lincoln were, in early days, supposed to be caused by large deposits of salt in their vicinity, and because of conditions of manufacture and transportation then prevailing here and elsewhere, they were regarded as very valuable. It is well known that these considerations were the principal and determining factor that induced the location of a seat of government at this place in the summer of 1867, by commissioners appointed by the legislature and vested with authority to select a site therefor.

In the early winter of 1869-70 the writer prepared a series of articles under the title of "A History of Lincoln" which were printed in a weekly newspaper then published at Lincoln and called the Nebraska Statesman. They met with so much popular favor that in the following summer the State Journal Company reproduced them in a pamphlet edition of several thousand copies. In the latter form they were distributed by both public officials and private individuals throughout the United States. But notwithstanding that provocation, public lethargy, due, perhaps, to exhaustion consequent upon the then recently ended Civil war, was so profound, and the public mind was so preoccupied and perplexed with the problems of reconstruction following that conflict, that the country remained at peace. Previously thereto Mr. Augustus F. Harvey, then a prominent citizen, and formerly editor and proprietor of the Statesman, and who, as a surveyor and civil engineer, had made the first survey and plat of the townsite of Lincoln, had published a pamphlet entitled "Nebraska As It Is," from which my own publication reproduced the following:

"In Lancaster County, averaging forty-five miles from and west of the Missouri River, lies a great salt basin. Within an area of twelve by twenty-five miles, through which Salt Creek runs in a northeasterly direction, are found innumerable springs of salt water, containing 28.8 per cent of salt by weight, the product itself containing ninety-five to ninety-seven parts of chloride of sodium (pure salt) and three to five parts of chlorides and sulphates of magnesium, calcium, lime, etc.

"There is no question of the vast wealth which will some day be derived from this region. The absence of fuel for the purpose of manufacture is more than compensated for by the excessive dryness of the atmosphere and the consequent rapidity of evaporation. From the first of April to the middle of November scarcely a day passes without a warm, dry wind. During the months of June, July, August and September the winds are almost constant."

(Mr. Harvey afterwards demonstrated by actual experiment that the average evaporation during the months last named is at the rate of ten inches of saturated brine in sixty hours, ten inches of fresh water in seventy-two hours.)

"The salt made by boiling or washing the deposits around the spring crystallizes like the finest table salt. That from solar evaporation, or over slow artificial heat, forms large crystals from one-sixteenth to one-eighth of an inch, and is more translucent and snowy than the Syracuse or Kanawha salt.

"The location of the salt region is an evidence of that wisdom and goodness of the Creator which men are slow to acknowledge, but upon which all human

welfare must rest. It is a curious fact that, as far as we know, all the principal deposits of this one absolute necessity to the preservation of animal life are situated about equal distances apart, and with an apparent forethought of the commercial relations of the territory between them. This will be apparent when one marks upon the map the New York, Michigan, Virginia, Missouri, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Texas, Nebraska, Dakota, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico and Arizona salt regions, and notes the nearly uniform spaces between them."

As well to corroborate this testimony as to forestall an inference that might otherwise be drawn therefrom, that so much heat and drought might prove an obstruction to successful agriculture, the "history" supplemented the quotation from Mr. Harvey by the following commentary:

"Usually during a large portion of the summer but little rain falls in any part of the state, such droughts, however, seldom occurring until after the grain crops are fully developed and beyond the reach of any injury therefrom, the deep and porous soil having a singular power of retaining the moisture received by it in the earlier portion of the season. For this reason vegetation is found to thrive, unaffected by drought, long after the surface of the ground has become so excessively dry that the water on the surfaces of streams or in other exposed situations becomes almost the only considerable source from which the atmosphere is supplied with the aqueous vapor necessary to prevent nocturnal chills." As Mr. Harvey observes in his pamphlet, the atmosphere is so excessively dry that "dead animals upon the prairies do not rot; they dry up." This accounts for the previous mentioned rapidity of solar evaporation.

From these and other equally trustworthy data, including indications obtained by lessees of the state by the sinking of a well near the springs to a depth of 340 feet, it was thought to be sufficiently proved that brine of at least 60°, or 20 per cent strength, could be produced in inexhaustible quantities from a thousand wells to be sunk within the surrounding basin, comprising some three hundred square miles and constituting a much larger and more productive territory than could be found elsewhere in the United States. Taking all these matters into consideration and dividing the results to which they pointed by four, so as to eliminate every supposable error of fact or of calculation, it was ascertained, by mathematical demonstration, that the value of the annual output from each of the thousand anticipated wells would be approximately a half million dollars, or five hundred million in all. And the product, upon the assurance of Mr. Harvey was represented to be 97 per cent pure common salt, fit for table use without rectification.

The foregoing shows what can be done by a vivid and vigorous imagination with a little rain water and a moderate quantity of chloride of sodium slightly adulterated with alkaline salts. Upon a fly-leaf of the pamphlet was printed the following certificate:

"Lincoln, Nebraska, June 22, 1870.

"We, the undersigned officers and commissioners of public buildings of the State of Nebraska, do hereby certify that we have carefully examined the proof sheets of the following pamphlet, and that we are thoroughly satisfied that the same is a true, correct, and impartial history of the town of Lincoln, and of the several public enterprises and matters therein discussed.

"John Gillespie, Auditor.

David Butler, Governor.

"Thomas P. Kennard, Secretary of State."



The governor and auditor have gone to their final reward, but the secretary of state is still living in Lincoln and has never recanted. The practice of supplying the delinquencies of judicial tribunals by irregular methods has never been adopted in Nebraska.

I have always regretted that these matters were never brought to the attention of Col. Beriah Sellers, as certainly would have been done if the writer had enjoyed the personal acquaintance of his celebrated biographer, Mark Twain. The evidence already cited is, however, by no means all or the most weighty of which the case is susceptible. There is more and better at hand and easily producible, to which attention will be invited in the course of the following narrative.

It has been a policy of the United States ever since the formation of the Government, and one which is evidenced by a series of congressional enactments beginning with the year 1796, to reserve saline springs and deposits upon the public lands from sale or private entry, and to preserve them for the benefit of all the people of the several states formed or to be formed out of the territory in which they are found. In consonance with this policy, an act of Congress of April 19, 1864, authorizing the formation of a state government and providing for the admittance of Nebraska into the Union, contained the following section:

"Sec. II. And be it further enacted, That all salt springs within the said state, not exceeding twelve in number, with six sections of land adjoining, or as contiguous as may be to each, shall be granted to said state for its use, the said land to be selected by the governor thereof, within one year after the admission of the state, and when so selected to be used or disposed of on such terms, conditions, and regulations as the legislature shall direct; provided, that no salt springs or lands, the right whereof is now vested in any individual or individuals, or which hereafter shall be confirmed or adjudged to any individual or individuals, shall, by this act, be granted to said state."

Pursuant to this statute the first governor of the state, the Honorable David Butler, selected twelve salt springs lying within the great salt basin, the largest of them being the one now under discussion. Prior to that time the public lands of the Territory of Nebraska had been surveyed and platted under the authority of an act of Congress, July 22, 1854, and these springs had been noted upon the field books, but the notes had not been transferred to the plats prepared and returned for the use of the land department in making sales of the public domain. It was thought, also, that there were ambiguities in certain previous acts of Congress, the nature of which it is unnecessary and would be tedious to explain here, by reason of which the Nebraska springs had unwittingly been excepted from the rule, which, as above stated, Congress had, from the first, intended to apply to all such properties.

In 1856 Mr. John Prey had removed to this territory from Wisconsin and with his sons, Thomas, William L., and John W., had settled upon public lands lying in what is now Lancaster County. Afterward William L. obtained employment from the late J. Sterling Morton at the residence of the latter, near Nebraska City in Otoe County. The regulations offering the lands for sale at the United States land office at the latter-named place made no reservation for the protection of settlers. The elder Prey had sold his farm in Wisconsin, but had not yet been paid the purchase price, and was therefore without means to secure the possessions of himself and his sons. In this emergency he, as well as some

of his neighbors, similarly situated, applied to Mr. Morton for assistance. Morton, as agent for certain eastern parties, had in his possession a considerable number of military bounty land warrants, issued under authority of an act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, and which were selling at some discount and were exchangeable at their face for public lands at their minimum price. His instructions were to sell them either for cash or to permit them to be located, relying upon the good faith of the locators to secure their payment upon the land as soon as title therefor should be obtained, Morton being responsible to his principal for the consummation of the transaction in good faith. The Preys, besides asking for warrants for the purpose mentioned, which he seems to have furnished without hesitancy, besought him to furnish additional warrants to cover what has been called the Great Salt Spring, representing to him that it was rich with salt which at a day not far distant would be very valuable. He had never seen the land itself, or the surveys or plats in the land office, or talked about them with any United States official, and was skeptical about its containing salt deposits of any considerable value. On the contrary he believed it to be alkaline land unfit for agriculture or any other useful purpose and so expressed himself. No one, however, seemed to doubt that it was lawfully subject to entry and sale, and the subject was not discussed or so much as mentioned. With a great deal of reluctance and after much importunity, he finally consented to furnish a part of the warrants asked for, provided the locations should be made in the name of William L. Prey, in whom he had the uttermost confidence and upon whom he mainly relied to carry out the arrangement usual in such cases. But for some unknown reason, probably because of the mistake or inadvertence of the register of the land office, the location was made in the name of John W. Prey. These entries were made on the 12th day of September, 1859. In July, 1868, John W. Prey executed a deed purporting to convey to Morton an undivided one-third of the lands mentioned in the certificate of location, and on the same day similar deeds were made to Andrew Hopkins and Charles A. Manners. Patents were issued by the land department and transmitted to the local office, for delivery to Prey, but the secretary of the interior, upon being informed that the land contained valuable saline deposits, arrested them before delivery, and after having caused an investigation to be made, directed their return to Washington and cancellation, which was done in the year 1862.

The only question affecting the validity of the location or of the patents was whether the springs had been reserved from sale, or "private entry" as it was called. That the land was valueless for agriculture was apparent to all, and no attempt at their actual occupancy by Prey or his grantees was made until after the lapse of more than ten years from their location. The Nebraska Legislature met in regular session on the 7th day of January, 1869, and the governor's message read on the next day submitted the following matters for their consideration:

"Although comparatively little has been accomplished in the actual production of salt, that little has settled beyond question, if indeed further proof was needed, that we have, within sight of this hall, a rich and apparently inexhaustible supply of pure and easily manufactured article. It will be directly and indirectly a source of wealth to the state, whose great value no one can fully estimate.

"Prompted by a sense of the importance of the early development of this interest, I gave to Mr. A. C. Tichenor a lease, conditioned upon the approval of

the Legislature, of one section of the salt lands belonging to the state. One-half of his interest in the lease was, by Mr. Tichenor, assigned to the Nebraska Salt Company of Chicago. This company, from want of means or some unknown reason, has failed to fulfill the obligations undertaken in their purchase. So far has it failed that the local demand for salt has not been supplied, and it has been unable at times to supply even a single bushel for home consumption. It is credibly represented that this company has refused to pay the debts which it has contracted among our citizens. While such is the state of things with this company, experienced men declare their readiness to invest in these works any required sums, if the opportunity is presented them.

"The original lessee, in assuming and meeting the liabilities of the company, has a considerable amount invested in buildings and other works adapted to the prosecution of successful manufacture. He, as managing agent for the company, has been faithful, though he has failed to receive the support which it is the duty of the company to render. He could not by any action of the state be made to suffer. But the public interest is at too great an extent involved in the speedy and full development of the productive capacity of these salt springs to allow them to lie in the hands of those who, from lack of energy or means, shall fail to work them to their full extent. Though the government should not take possession of the works built by Mr. Tichenor, without making full compensation, the general assembly should at least take such action as will soon result in securing the manufacture of salt to the greatest possible extent."

The legislative response to this urgent appeal was an act, approved February 15, 1869, by which the lease mentioned in the message was declared to be void and of "no effect in law," and the governor was "authorized and directed" to enter into a new lease for the same lands with Anson C. Tichenor and Jesse T. Green, covenanting for the construction of certain manufacturing works, to the aggregate cost of one hundred thousand dollars, the commencement of the manufacture of salt within ninety days from the date of the instrument, and the payment to the state of two cents per bushel upon the gross output, and providing for a forfeiture of the lease for failure to make the required improvements or for failure to prosecute the business for so long a period as six months at any one time. The act also authorized the governor to lease any other of the saline lands to any other competent persons upon substantially the same terms, but requiring a greater or lesser expenditure for improvements, as he should see fit. On the same day the session was finally adjourned and on the same day also a lease with Tichenor and Green, as contemplated by the act, was formerly executed, and the lessees went into possession thereunder and proceeded with the erection of vats and pumping apparatus for the purposes of manufacturing salt by means of solar evaporation of the surface brine. It is shown by the official report of the state treasurer, James Sweet, under the date of January 12, 1871, that the total revenues derived from royalties for the manufacture of salt were, up to that time, \$53.93, indicating a total production of 2,696½ bushels. It does not appear that the state ever subsequently received any income from that source.

The governor convened the legislature in special session on the 17th day of January, 1870, and submitted to them a message reciting the objects to accomplish which they had been called together, and contained the following paragraphs:

"To ratify and confirm a certain contract made by the governor for the conveyance of certain lands to Isaac Cahn and John M. Evans, to aid in the development of the saline interests of the state.

"Anxious to secure at an early day as possible the development of our saline interests, I entered into a contract with Messrs. Cahn and Evans in August last, whereby they obligated themselves to commence at once the sinking of a well on land leased to them for that purpose, and to continue the sinking of the same to the depth of 800 feet unless brine of 50° in strength should be sooner obtained, and to keep a perfect geological record of formations passed through in the prosecution of the work.

"To aid them in this, I contracted, subject to your approval, to deed them two sections of saline lands belonging to the state.

"Since that time they have steadily prosecuted the work, meeting, however, with very many obstacles. They have already expended \$12,000.00 and it will cost them several thousands more to complete the work. The geological record provided for in this contract will prove invaluable in the sinking of future wells. I trust you will see the justice of this measure and cheerfully confirm my action in the matter.

"It is of the highest importance that this interest be developed without delay, and I see no way whereby it can be done without state aid."

Without giving the matter mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs of the governor's message any consideration, the legislature finally adjourned on the 4th day of March, 1870, and was by executive proclamation reconvened in a second extra session on the same day. Again the governor, by message urged upon that body the importance of the subject under consideration, saying:

"The ratification and confirmation of a certain contract made by the governor for the conveyance of certain lands to Isaac Cahn and John M. Evans, to aid in the development of the saline interests of the state, or such other aid as the legislature may see fit to extend. I again urge this subject upon you for your earnest consideration. I cannot but think that the best interests of the state need and demand it. The time has come when the people of this state ought to know whether the salt springs owned by her are to be a source of wealth, rivaling Saginaw and Syracuse, or not. It is hardly to be supposed for a moment that individual enterprise can afford to take upon itself the risk of ruin consequent upon sinking a well at a vast expense and failing to obtain brine. It may be true that these lessees are able to sell out and make themselves whole. But whether true or not, true it is beyond doubt that individual speculation in our salt springs is not what the state wants. Indeed, I think it hurtful to the reputation of our saline resources. We want them developed. We want the problem solved once and forever. I would much prefer that it be made a condition of the grant or other aid that the present lessees shall not assign their term or any part of it, until they have sunk the well to the depth required. This would certainly be for the best interests of the state. It would insure hearty and vigorous effort on the part of the lessees. I hope, gentlemen, you will consider the subject well, because I know of my own knowledge that these lessees, after a great expenditure made in good faith and at my own earnest solicitation, will be compelled to abandon, for want of means, further prosecution of their enterprise. This very abandonment will by no means tend to increase the zeal of enterprising adventur-

ers in making further experiments. I therefore ask at your hands such legislation as will tend to push forward this work to a rapid completion."

This appeal, like the former, fell upon deaf ears, and, without adverting to the subject, the Legislature on the same date on which they had been for a second time reconvened, adjourned without delay. At the ensuing regular session of the Legislature in 1871, Governor Butler was impeached and removed from office, and the lease to Cahn and Evans was never ratified or validated. They proceeded, however, to sink a well to the required depth, before reaching which they struck a stream of flowing water too slightly saline for the profitable manufacture of salt. Their works were then abandoned, but the stream continues to flow in undiminished quantity.

It was said at the time that the flowing vein was of sweet, fresh water, and that its salt and alkaline qualities, when it reached the surface, were due to its mixture with other veins encountered on its way upward. And it was said, also, that its velocity was such that it would rise in a tube to the height of thirty feet above the ground. I have not attempted to verify or disprove either of these statements. If they are true, the stream may perhaps some time be of practical value for the generation of electric power. Much the same story was told of a well afterwards sunk by the city, on Government, then Market, Square, for the purpose of fire protection.

Not long after the execution of the lease to Tichenor and Green, the former disposed of his interest to Horace Smith of Springfield, Massachusetts, a member of the celebrated firm of Smith & Wesson of revolver fame, who by personal inspection and with the aid of experts had satisfied himself of the great value of the salt controlled by the lessees. But not deeming the business of manufacture at Lincoln so far developed as to require his personal attention, he placed his matters there temporarily in charge of his nephew, Mr. James P. Hebbard of Nebraska City.

There is no reason to doubt that Morton and his associates acquired their supposed title in good faith and felt assured of its validity during all this time, but when or how he became convinced that the land was of any considerable value is not known. He may possibly have read Mr. Harvey's pamphlet or my own. Quite likely he had read the report of an expert inspector on file in the land department and hereafter mentioned, and he was doubtless familiar with the governor's message and with the legislative act of February 15, 1869 and with the covenants of the lease made pursuant to it, and with the purchase by Smith, a reported wealthy and capable business man, after a careful personal examination with the aid of an expert, and with the expenditures of Cahn and Evans and the reassuring indications reported to be obtained by the sinking of their well. There was certainly evidence enough to convince any reasonable man and Morton was never accused of lacking the faculty of reasoning. But by the fall of 1870 it had become evident that the title to the tract could never be put beyond dispute otherwise than by a judgment of the courts, and, in a litigation concerning it, certain technical advantages of considerable value, it was supposed, would abide with the party in possession who would enjoy the position of defendant, and be better able to parry an attack than to make one. With a view to securing these advantages, Morton organized an expedition in December of that year. There was then no direct communication between Lincoln and Nebraska City

by rail and he traveled overland with a wagonload of provisions and supplies and one or more assistants. Arriving in Lincoln at evening on the 24th day of the month, he looked about him for some trusty local personage to help him out with his enterprise, and finally hit upon Ed P. Roggen, then just arriving at manhood, afterwards secretary of this state, and with his party thus completed repaired to the salt springs just at nightfall.

Among the structures erected by the lessees pursuant to their covenants with the state was a small building intended for use as a sort of headquarters and barrack room for the proprietors and their employees. The weather had been cloudy and threatening for the past week, and the manufacture of salt by solar evaporation had been temporarily suspended, and the "works" were deserted. The building was unlocked and unguarded and the party went into occupancy without opposition. News of the invasion soon came to the ears of Green and Hebbard and caused them no little uneasiness. It was feared that unless the intruders could be at once expelled, their possession would ripen into such a character that it could only be terminated, if at all, at the end of a long and tedious litigation, during which the tenants of the state would incur a forfeiture of their lease, besides losing the profits of manufacture in the meantime. In view of these possibilities they immediately repaired for counsel to Col. James E. Philpott, one of the leading legal practitioners in the city, and laid their case before him. Cord wood, with the exception of corn, was then almost the sole fuel used or obtainable in Lincoln, and was worth from ten to fourteen dollars per cord, reference being had to quality. The lessees had a large quantity of it piled near the building and the colonel suggested that if the trespassers should consume any of it, which on account of the state of the weather they would doubtless be compelled to do, they would commit the offense of larceny, for which they would become liable to arrest and criminal prosecution. Acting upon this suggestion, two persons were dispatched to the salt springs with instructions to observe and report events. They were not long in discovering both Morton and Roggen helping themselves to the wood and carrying armsful of it into the building, and in reporting the fact to their employers. Immediately a complaint charging Morton and Roggen with larceny, according to a statutory form then in use, was prepared by Philpott, and subscribed and sworn to by Hebbard before myself as justice of the peace, which office I then held, and a warrant was thereon duly issued and delivered to a constable named Richardson, who was then also town marshal. I do not recall his given name, but because of the quality of his hair he was commonly called and known as "Curl" Richardson. At about half past 10 o'clock on the same night, the constable appeared at my office with both the defendants in charge as prisoners and attended by their counsel, Mr. Jacob R. Hardenbergh, now deceased. Mr. Hebbard and Colonel Philpott, and perhaps others, were also present. There was a good deal of half-concealed anger and excitement, but there was no outbreak and no scene. The next day was both Christmas and Sunday. Morton entered into his personal recognizance and became surety upon the recognizance of Roggen for the appearance of both of them at a specified hour on the following Monday, to which the adjournment was taken. When these proceedings had been concluded all persons in attendance left the room. There was a conference that night between Morton and his counsel on one side, and Seth Robinson, then attorney-general

of the state, on the other, at the private office of the latter. Who else was there or what was done or agreed upon, I know only from hearsay. I was not present and did not know of the meeting at the time. This much, however, seems certain, namely, that Morton agreed to desist from his attempt to take forcible possession of the property in consideration that the criminal prosecution should be dropped. It was said at the time that he also agreed to waive any claim for damages on account of his arrest, but this he afterwards disputed. At any rate, at the hour to which the case had been adjourned, on Monday, the prosecution appeared and withdrew the complaint and the proceeding was dismissed.

Two weeks later, on the 7th of January, 1871, Morton began an action against Hebbard and Green, in the District Court of Lancaster County, to recover the sum of \$20,000 damages for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment. His counsel was Jacob R. Hardenbergh, with whom was afterwards associated Daniel Gantt of Nebraska City, later a judge of the Supreme Court of the state. Hebbard and Green filed separate answers, the former being represented by E. E. Brown and Seth Robinson as his attorneys, and the latter by James E. Philpott. A jury was waived and the cause came on for trial at a special term of the court before the Hon. George B. Lake, district and supreme judge. On the 8th day of June, 1871, there were subpoenaed as witnesses a man named Kennedy, E. P. Roggen, Maj. A. G. Hastings, and myself. There were findings and a judgment for the plaintiff in the sum of \$100 damages and costs of suit. On the same day the amount was paid into court by Robert E. Knight, a partner of Colonel Philpott, and on the same day also, Morton signed with his own hand upon the records of the court a receipt for it from Capt. Robert A. Bain, clerk of the court. The trial was merely formal, and it was understood at the time that what Morton wished to gain from the suit was not large damages but vindication from the accusation of larceny. Thus ended an episode about which there was much angry discussion for a time, and which was the occasion, temporarily, of some "bad blood," but which left matters precisely where they were at the beginning, and which had caused no appreciable harm to the property and none at all to the reputation of any one concerned.

But litigation was by no means at an end. On the same 7th day of January, on which the last mentioned suit was begun, Morton, Hopkins and Manners began an action in ejectment in the same court to try the title to the lands in dispute. Counsel engaged in the case were J. R. Hardenbergh and Daniel Gantt, for the plaintiffs, and Seth Robinson, E. E. Brown and James E. Philpott for the defense. Subsequently the state was admitted to defend by George H. Roberts, who had succeeded Mr. Robinson in the office of attorney-general. A trial before Judge George B. Lake and a jury resulted in a verdict and judgment for the defendants, to reverse which a petition in error was prosecuted in the Supreme Court. The serial or general number of the case in that court was eighty-one. In that court Judge E. Wakely, of Omaha, also appeared for the plaintiffs.

The judgment of the District Court was affirmed in an opinion by Judge Crouse, from which Chief Justice Mason dissented, 2 Nebraska, 441.

The patents although executed, as before stated, and transmitted to the local land office were never delivered to Prey, but were arrested by the commissioner of the general land office, Mr. J. M. Edmunds, as soon as he became informed of the character of the land, and were by his order returned to the department

at Washington and cancelled. The sole ground of the decision was that, by reason of these circumstances, the legal title had never passed out of the United States to Prey, and that although he might have acquired complete equitable ownership and conveyed it to the plaintiffs, the court was without jurisdiction to adjudge the matter in the common law action of ejectment. The chief justice combatted this decision in an elaborate and characteristically vigorous opinion, in which he maintained that saline lands in Nebraska were not reserved from private sale prior to the passage of the enabling act, and that the lands in suit having been sold before that time, section eleven of that act, above quoted, not only did not assume to grant them to the state, but by implication ratified and confirmed their previous sale to the plaintiffs or Prey. He further contended that the action of the Department of the Interior in arresting and cancelling the patents was in excess of authority and void, and that the plaintiffs, having all except the bare legal title, which was a mere shadow, were entitled to maintain their suit, and upon reversal of the judgment of the District Court, to have final judgment in their favor rendered in the Supreme Court. He treated the defendants, the state, and its lessees as in the light of mere trespassers without semblance of right.

Dissatisfied with this decision, the plaintiffs sued out a writ of error from the Supreme Court of the United States, where counsel for the plaintiffs was Montgomery Blair, and for the defendants were Judge William Lawrence, of Ohio; Judge E. Rockwood Hoar, of Massachusetts; and the Hon. R. H. Bradford. The case was reached and disposed of by an opinion by Justice David Davis, speaking for the whole court, at the October term, 1874, 21 Wallace, 88, U. S. 660. That court wholly ignored the opinion of the state Supreme Court, both majority and minority, and disposed of the case upon its merits, a somewhat unusual proceeding, because a majority of the state court expressly declined to consider the merits and rested their decision solely on a question of practice, having reference to their own jurisdiction and that of the trial court in this form of action, and held that neither had any. The state court was certainly competent to determine its own powers and jurisdiction, and it is difficult to understand how the Supreme Court of the United States derived from it a jurisdiction which it did not itself possess. But the latter-named court so determined, holding, after a view of all the congressional legislation relative to the subject, that the springs were reserved from private entry by an act of Congress of July 22, 1854, establishing the office of surveyor-general for the territories of New Mexico, Kansas and Nebraska, and for that reason affirmed the judgment complained of. The lands were thus finally released from the custody of the law. No further attempt to make use of them for the manufacture of salt has ever been made, but there have been some partly successful efforts to convert the big spring into a pleasure resort.

There was produced on the trial in the District Court and included in the bill of exception a certified copy of a report of an expert who, by direction of the land department, had been detailed by the United States surveyor-general for Kansas and Nebraska to ascertain the true character of the land in question. It was shown by this document that by careful observation over a long period in the summer of 1862, of the quantity of brine issuing from the large spring, then called the "Chester Basin," and from a personally conducted quantitative and



qualitative analysis of it, that there was annually producible by solar evaporation from the surface waters of that spring alone no less than fifty-five hundred tons of, for practical purposes, chemically pure salt, 1,000 tons of which could be collected from spontaneous crystallization around the edges of the basin. This quantity would have been equal to 220,000 statutory bushels, but at the royalty reserved in the Tichenor and Green lease, should have yielded the state an annual revenue of \$4,400. But it was further shown by this report that the quantity of salt obtainable could without difficulty be largely increased by the use of dams and dykes preventing loss by dilution and seepage.

The statement of facts prepared by Justice Davis for official publication in connection with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States contained the following statement, substantially repeated in the body of the opinion: "The land in question was palpably saline, so incrustated with salt as to resemble snow covered lakes." It should not be forgotten that there are eleven smaller springs situated in the Great Basin and selected by the governor.

#### SUBSEQUENT WORKINGS

Charles G. Bullock maintained the plant for ten years, beginning in 1874, with very slight success. An overflow from Salt Creek damaged his works to the amount of \$1,000 and dissolved his marketable salt. In 1885 Jesse T. Green attempted to revive the works, but again the elements of nature stopped the effort. A heavy fall of rain worked the havoc in this latter case. The State Legislature of 1885 passed an act "to provide for the sale and leasing of the saline lands and the development of the saline interests of the State of Nebraska" and in December of the same year a contract was made with M. C. Bullock, of Chicago, for the sinking of a well 2,000 feet in depth, for which work he was to receive the sum of \$10,125. This well was started in May, 1886, and the work ended in August of the next year. The result of the boring was very disappointing, as no brine of sufficient quality to be worked was found. The salt water tested only 35° at the highest and in other parts of the country where salt springs were located and salt manufactured 95° was considered the minimum for successful manufacture. The coming of the railroad brought cheaper salt, also, so that the manufacture of the commodity in Lancaster County, so long dreamed of by the people and advertised to the advantage of the new state, was given up as hopeless and has never been renewed. As stated before, the basin and principal wells were taken over in connection with an amusement resort. Oak Creek's waters were diverted into the old Chester Basin and a large lake now covers the ground where the faithful enthusiasts worked and where their hopes died.

Upon the banks of this beautiful lake, once barren and forbidding, has been planted a great variety of deciduous and evergreen trees, flowering and ornamental shrubs, all of which are growing luxuriantly; large sums of money have been expended in the erection of buildings suitable for a pleasure resort.

The State Journal of April 13, 1916, announces that the Traction Company has leased the lake and grounds to be used as a pleasure resort.

In all of this we see a striking illustration of how "man proposes, but God disposes."

## CHAPTER VI

### THE TOWN OF LANCASTER

The Government survey of the the land upon which Lincoln is now located was made in the year 1856 and, of course, the feature of the survey was the report made upon the salt springs. The stories of fabulous wealth spread to all parts of the Middle West, and for that matter, into the East. Many an adventurer and pioneer trekked to Nebraska Territory, fully expecting to return to his eastern home with pockets bulging. In 1856 the Crescent Company was organized at Plattsmouth, Neb., and Capt. W. T. Donovan, then commander of the steamer Emma, running from Pittsburgh to Plattsmouth, was appointed to represent the company at the newly discovered salt basin. Donovan, accompanied by his family, came and settled on section 23, on the west bank of Salt Creek, just south of the mouth of Oak Creek. During the same summer William Norman and Alexander Robinson, representing another company, came and located on section 21, near the salt basin, but in the next spring they left, dissatisfied with the outlook. As stated before, the attitude of the Pawnee Indians became very threatening during 1858 and Captain Donovan himself left the new settlement and retired to the Stevens Creek colony for safety. In 1861 he returned and settled in the vicinity of the salt basin once more, at a point near the present state hospital, then called Yankee Hill.

In the autumn of 1859 a meeting had been held to consider county organization and a committee, composed of A. J. Wallingford, Joseph J. Forest and W. T. Donovan, were appointed to select a site for a county seat and there lay out a town. In accordance with their instructions the men selected the site of Lincoln, and called it Lancaster. It is said that Donovan gave the name. He had previously, in 1857, named his first settlement at the basin Lancaster.

On July 2, 1861, Captain Donovan introduced Mr. W. W. Cox to the basin and the latter, in company with Darwin Peckham, began to boil salt on August 20th in section 21. During the winter, when the business of trading salt was at a standstill, Cox quartered with Donovan at Yankee Hill.

During the year 1862 John S. Gregory arrived at the basin and also opened up a salt business on section 21. In the latter part of the month of May Milton Langdon and his family arrived and settled on the north side of Oak Creek, near its junction with Salt Creek.

The passage of the Homestead Act in February, 1862, brought many new settlers into this county, where they took up their claims, some of them staying and others moving on after a few months.

In the fall of 1861 the first frame building in Lancaster County was begun and finished during the following spring. W. W. Cox, by trade a carpenter, did

the construction work for Richard Wallingford. The doors were of black walnut.

During the winter of 1862-63 the family of Joseph Chambers was presented with a son, which child was probably the first born within the limits of the present City of Lincoln. The child lived only a short time.

In the spring of 1863 John S. Gregory constructed a small frame house, in the vicinity of the present West Lincoln, and about the same time was made postmaster at the basin; the office was called Gregory's Basin. Mr. Gregory engaged in the making of salt, along with William Inlay and Milton Langdon. Mr. Gregory was elected to the Territorial Legislature for Lancaster County on October 13, 1863.

On July 4, 1863, the little settlement at the salt basin was augmented by several newcomers. Tradition has it that Mr. W. W. Cox, while picking gooseberries along Salt Creek for the Fourth of July dinner, heard men shouting to him. Upon closer inspection he found that the new arrivals, namely, J. M. Young, Peter Schamp, Dr. J. McKesson, E. W. Warnes, Luke Lavender and Jacob Dawson, were seeking a place to locate and plant a colony. The party accepted Mr. Cox's invitation to join in patriotic exercises and during the day Elder Young and his associates became impressed with the possibilities of the salt basin site. Young returned to the basin on July 10, 1863, and located on section 23, a part of which he designated as a town and named it Lancaster. No effort was made to encourage settlement in the town until the next year, 1864, and this date may properly be said to have been the starting point of the Village of Lancaster, later to blossom into the state capital of Nebraska.

Upon the occasion of Elder Young's death on Saturday, February 23, 1884, or shortly afterward, the Nebraska State Journal had the following to say of him:

"It is seldom that the Journal is called upon to chronicle the death of a man who, living, had so many claims to the love and respect of his fellow men, and who, dead, leaves so great a lesson of faith and works behind him, or is so sincerely mourned, as Elder J. M. Young, who has at last, after seventy-eight years of labor in his Master's vineyard, gone to receive the reward of his faithful toil.

"Up to within a year Elder Young had been quite vigorous and active, notwithstanding his burden of years. For the last year he had been suffering from bronchial affections, and for about two months was confined to his bed.

"Elder J. M. Young was born in Genesee County, N. Y., near Batavia, on the old Holland purchase, November 25, 1806. In 1829 he married Alice Watson, at that time eighteen years of age, who now survives him at the age of seventy-four. The following year he moved to Ohio, and from Ohio he went to Page County, Iowa, in 1859. In 1860 he came to Nebraska and settled at Nebraska City. In 1863, near the end of the year, he came to Salt Creek, and selected as a site for a town and what he predicted would be the capital of Nebraska, the present site of Lincoln. The following named persons located her at the same time: Thomas Hudson, Edwin Warnes, Doctor McKesson, T. S. Schamp, Uncle Jonathan Ball, Luke Lavender, Jacob Dawson and John Giles. It was the original intention to make the settlement a church colony, but the idea was never utilized as projected.

"On eighty acres owned by him Elder Young laid out the Town of Lancaster,

which was made the county seat. He gave the lots in the city away, half to the county and school district, and half to the Lancaster Seminary, a school which he hoped to see established here for the promulgation of his faith. He built from the proceeds of the sale of some of the lots a building, which was called the seminary, and which was occupied by the district school and church. It was burned in 1867 and was never rebuilt.

"A church was organized here and Mr. Schamp was the first pastor. Elder Young was then president of the Iowa and Nebraska Conference. The next year after the capital was located the stone church was built. Elder Young's dream was to build up a strong church in the capital city. He worked assiduously for the object, and put into the work some eight or ten thousand dollars of his private means. When the church went down and he saw that his dream, in so far, had been in vain—that his dream could never be realized—he was almost broken-hearted; and this was the chief cause of his departure from Lincoln, which took place in 1882, when he went to London, Nemaha County, the scene of his closing days.

"Elder Young began his labors as minister soon after he moved to Ohio, in 1829. He was president of the Ohio Annual Conference for several years and was president of the Iowa and Nebraska Conference for about twenty years. He was a man of rare vigor and fine attainments.

"Elder Young left four sons: John M., of Lincoln; James O., of London; Levi, Lancaster County; and George W., of Taos City, New Mexico. He was buried in Wyuka Cemetery on February 26, 1884. Elder Hudson conducted the funeral services, by request of the deceased, assisted by Rev. D. Kinney and W. T. Horn."

The southeast quarter and the east half of the southwest quarter of section 23 were platted by Jacob Dawson, dated August 6, 1864. The streets were named North, Nebraska, Saline, Washington, Main, Lincoln, College, High and Locust from north to south. From west to east they were numbered from one to twelve. The original plat contained sixty-four blocks, of eight lots each. The streets were to be sixty-six feet wide; the alleys were to run east and west and be twenty feet wide. Upon the plat was a courthouse square and a seminary square.

In 1864 the Lancaster colony was increased by the location on or in close proximity to the site of a dozen more settlers. Up to that time Dr. J. McKesson, Elder Young, Luke Lavender, E. W. Warnes, J. M. Riddle, J. and D. Bennett, Philip Humerick, E. T. Hudson, C. Aiken, Robert Monteith and his two sons, John and William, William and John Grey, O. F. Bridges, Cyrus Carter, P. Billows, W. Porter, Milton Langdon and three or four others were the settlers here. In 1864 Silas Pratt, the Crawfords, Mrs. White and daughter, C. C. White and John Moore located on Oak Creek, about twelve miles northeast of this Lancaster settlement.

The Indian scare of 1864 caused many of the Lancaster citizens to hastily pack their belongings and start for the Missouri River, but some of them stayed, among the latter being Captain Donovan, who had once before fled for a like cause, John S. Gregory and E. W. Warnes. The Indians committed no depredations in this vicinity.

The year of 1865 was one of little settlement, due in no small measure to the Indian troubles of the previous year.

The county seat fight of 1864 is related elsewhere in this volume.

The second hotel was opened by John Cadman on the site of the old seminary and schoolhouse which stood on the rear of the lot occupied by the present State Journal Building. The hostelry was opened to the public late in 1867. Prior to this there had been a hotel known as the Pioneer House on the southeast corner of Ninth and Q streets. It was managed by L. A. Scoggin. The Pioneer was constructed in 1867 and burned down a few years later.

The afternoon of July 29, 1867, is a notable date in the history of Lancaster County. Upon this day the little hamlet of Lancaster was selected by the commissioners, Butler, Gillespie and Kennard, as the site of the capital of Nebraska. Lancaster then did not contain more than ten small houses, some of logs and some of stone. The commissioners met in the home of Captain Donovan, which stood near the southwest corner of Ninth and Q streets. This was a small stone and cottonwood house. Jacob Dawson's home was on the south side of O Street, between Seventh and Eighth, and in the front part of this house S. B. Pound had opened a small grocery store. Dawson was the postmaster at this time also. Milton Langdon resided in a small log house near the southwest corner of Eighth and Q streets. Dr. John McKesson had his home on the north side, near what is now W and Twelfth streets. S. B. Galey, who had come to the town in April, 1866, had a small stone building on P Street, near Tenth. Linderman & Hardenbergh, who were among the earliest merchants, sold a small stock of merchandise at a point now on Ninth Street, near P. They sold their shop to Martin and Jacob Pflug early in 1867 and it then was operated under the firm name of Pflug Brothers. Robert Monteith and his son, John, had a small shoe shop at what is now 922 P Street. Elder Young lived on what is now O Street near Seventeenth. The stone house erected by the elder is still standing, although it is now covered with a cement veneer and a porch added. Luke Lavender's log house was located in the vicinity of Fourteenth and O, about on the site of the present public library. Lavender's small log home was the first to be erected on the plat of Lincoln. Dawson's house was, however, constructed about the same time and the first term of court was held by Judge Dundy in his house in November, 1864. William Guy, Philip Humerick, E. T. Hudson, E. W. Warnes and John Giles had homesteads near the plat of Lancaster, all of which are now a part of the City of Lincoln. There were about thirty inhabitants of the Village of Lancaster when the commissioners decided to locate the state capital upon this site.

This ends the history of the little Village of Lancaster, for, when the plat of Lincoln was made and the site surveyed, the former plat was disregarded and the struggling little community was absorbed by the greater Town of Lincoln. Land owners of Lancaster were given equivalent estates in Lincoln, as shown by the table upon another page.

## CHAPTER VII

### REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS TO LOCATE THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

"To the Honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Nebraska:

"In pursuance of the requirements of the act of the Legislature entitled, 'An act to provide for the location of the seat of government of the State of Nebraska, and for the creation of public buildings thereat,' approved June 14, 1867, the commissioners thereby appointed assembled at Nebraska City upon Thursday, June 18, 1867, and prepared for a personal examination of the district, viz.: 'The County of Seward, the south half of the counties of Saunders and Butler, and that portion of the County of Lancaster lying north of the south line of township nine,' within which a selection was to be made for the contemplated seat of the state government.

"Having provided an outfit, and employing Mr. Aug. F. Harvey as surveyor, to ascertain the lines of the proposed sites, we left Nebraska City on the afternoon of the 18th of July, and arrived at Lancaster, in Lancaster County, on the evening of the 19th. The 20th and 22d were occupied in a full examination of the town site of Saline City, or 'Yankee Hill,' as it is more familiarly known, and Lancaster, the adjacent lands on both sides of Salt Creek, and the stone quarries from two to eight miles south of the village.

"The 23d was spent in reviewing the townsite proposed on the highland west of and adjacent to the Village of Ashland, in the southeast corner of Saunders County. The surface of this site declined gently to the north and east, sufficiently for thorough drainage, and is of such evenness that but little expense will ever be involved for grading. From any part of it a widely extended panorama is spread, embracing as it rises, many square miles in the valley of the Platte and Salt Creek. Timber is abundant, and inexhaustible quarries of fine rock outcrop along the bluffs near the mouth of Salt Creek and along the Platte, within one to four and five miles from the town. Salt Creek affords excellent water power for manufacturing purposes in Ashland. The distance of the site is about thirty-five miles from Plattsmouth, near the influx of Salt Creek to the Platte.

"On the 25th we went northwesterly along the old California Trail through Saunders County, covering the Wahoo River near its head, and arrived at night-fall at the residence of J. D. Brown, in Butler County. Upon this route we observed no situation of commanding advantages.

"Leaving Mr. Brown's on the 26th, we looked over the flat prairie between the heads of Oak Creek and the eastern tributaries of the Blue, in towns 13 and 14 north, ranges 3 and 4 east, in Butler County. Here is a wide tract of un-

broken plain, upon which we drove for six hours without seeing a depression in the surface at either hand. We struck the Blue in town 14 north, range 2 east, passing down that stream. After a drive that day (including some diversions from the direct rout to examine points which looked well at a distance), of over seventy-five miles, we arrived at Seward Center, in the fork of Plum Creek and the Blue, and opposite the mouth of Lincoln Creek. All of the proposed site here could be seen at a glance. It lies on a high table between the streams named, is level, is surrounded by fertile valleys, adjacent to timber, stone, and first-class water power, and is remarkable for healthiness of situation.

"The advantages, indeed, are possessed in an equal degree by Milford, six to eight miles below Seward, and by Camden, in the fork of the Blue and West Blue, except that the last-named site was in a lower elevation. We remained in Milford over night, and on the 27th turned eastward, and arrived at Saline City in the evening.

"On the 29th we made a more thorough examination of 'Yankee Hill' and Lancaster and their surroundings. At the last named point the favorable impressions received at first sight, on the 19th, were confirmed. We found it gently undulating, its principal elevation being near the center of the proposed new site, the village already established being in the midst of a thrifty and considerable agricultural population, rich timber and water power available within short distances, the center of the great saline region within two miles; and, in addition to all other claims, the especial advantage was that the location was at the center of a circle of about one hundred and ten miles in diameter, along or near the circumference of which are the Kansas state line, directly south, and the important towns of Pawnee City, Nebraska City, Plattsmouth, Omaha, Fremont, and Columbus.

"The state lands which we observed in our tour were mainly away from considerable bodies of timber or important water courses, and did not possess, to all appearances, any particular advantages, nor was the title of them so far vested in the state at that time (the report of the selection of lands by the governor under the acts of Congress admitting the state to the Union, not having then been certified or approved at Washington) as to warrant us in making a selection where there was a possibility that the title might fail, or in waiting until, by confirmation at Washington, the title had been secured.

"Under these circumstances we entertained the proposition of the people residing in the vicinity of Lancaster, offering to convey to the state in fee simple the west half of the west half of section 25, the east half and the southwest quarter of section 26, which, with the northwest quarter of section 26 (the last-named quarter being saline land), all in town 10, range 6 east, the whole embracing 800 acres, and upon which it was proposed to erect the new town. In addition, the trustees of the Lancaster Seminary Association proposed to convey to the state, for an addition to the site named in the foregoing proposition, the townsite of Lancaster, reserving certain lots therein, which had been disposed of in whole or in part, to the purchasers thereof, and the owners of said lots reserved agreeing to a resurvey of the townsite as an addition to Lincoln, and the acceptance of lots according to the new survey in lieu of those acquired from the seminary company and surrendered by them.

"James Sweet, Esq., was appointed conveyancer to the commissioners, and

after his report upon the sufficiency of the titles proposed to be made to the state, and a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the condition of the state lands, the advantages of the situation, its central position, and the value of its surroundings over a district of over twelve thousand square miles of rich agricultural country, it was determined to accept the proposition made by the owners of the land, if upon a ballot the commissioners should decide upon a location at this point.

"In the afternoon of the 29th of July we assembled in the house of W. T. Donovan, of Lancaster, and after a comparison of notes and the discussion of advantages of the many points examined, proceeded to ballot for a choice.

"On the first ballot Lancaster received two votes and Ashland one. On the second vote Lancaster received the unanimous vote of the commissioners.

"The governor then announced the result to the people, many of whom were outside awaiting the decision.

"Having performed the business of the location of the seat of government, the commissioners returned to Omaha, leaving Mr. Harvey at Lancaster to do the surveying necessary to locate the depressions and elevations on the townsite, preliminary to his furnishing a design for laying off the blocks, streets and reservations, and making a plat thereof. He completed that labor on the 12th of August, when he notified the commissioners, and they again assembled at Lancaster, on the 13th day of August. On the 14th the commissioners formally announced the founding of the Town of Lincoln as the seat of government of Nebraska, in the following proclamation:

"To Whom It May Concern: Know ye, that on this the 14th day of August, A. D. 1867, by virtue of authority in us vested, and in accordance with an act to provide for the location of the seat of government of the State of Nebraska, and for the erection of public buildings thereat, approved June 14, 1867, we, the undersigned commissioners, on this, the 14th day of August, A. D. 1867, have by actual view selected the following described lands belonging to the state, viz.:

"S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23; the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , of section 25, the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of section 25, of township No. 10 north, of range No. 6 east of the sixth principal meridian, and have located the seat of government of the State of Nebraska upon said described lands as a town to be known as Lincoln.

"Further, that we have, upon the day above mentioned, designated within said location the reservation for the capitol building, state university and agricultural college, parks, and other reservations contemplated in the aforesaid act, which will be properly designated upon a plat and filed in the office of the secretary of state.

"Done at Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, this 14th day of August, A. D. 1867.

"DAVID BUTLER,

"THOMAS P. KENNARD,

"JOHN GILLESPIE,

"Commissioners.'

"On the following day Messrs. A. F. Harvey and A. B. Smith, engineers, with a corps of assistants, who were sworn to perform faithful service, commenced the survey of the town. The design is calculated for the making of a beautiful



town. The streets are 100 and 125 feet wide, and calculated to be improved on all except O and Ninth streets, and the other business streets around the Market Square and the Courthouse Square, with a street park outside of the curb line; as, for instance, on the 100-foot streets, pavements of 12 feet wide and park or double row of trees, with grass plots between, 12 feet wide outside the pavements; and on the 125-foot streets the pavement and park to be each 15 feet wide. This will leave a roadway of 52 feet on the streets 100 feet wide, and 60 feet wide on the wide streets, while on the business streets a 90-foot roadway will be ample room for all demands of trade.

"Reservations of nearly twelve acres each were made for the state house, state university and city park, these being at about equal distances from each other.

"Reservations of one block each for a courthouse for Lancaster County, for a city hall and market space, for a state historical library association, and several other squares, in proper location, for public schools.

"The commissioners have also marked upon the book of record of lots, reservations of three lots each for the following religious denominations, viz.:

"Lots 7, 8, 9, block 65, for the Roman Catholic Church.

"Lots 10, 11, 12, in block 67, for the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Lots 10, 11, 12, in block 87, for the Baptist Church.

"Lots 10, 11, 12, in block 80, for the Congregational Society.

"Lots 1, 2, 3, in block 91, for the German Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Lots 7, 8, 9, in block 97, for the Lutheran Congregation.

"Lots 10, 11, 12, in block 99, for the Protestant Methodist Church.

"Lots 16, 17, 18, in block 101, for the Christian Church.

"Lots 10, 11, 12, in block 119, for the Presbyterian Church.

"Lots 7, 8, 9, in block 121, for the Protestant Episcopal Church.

"These reservations were made with the understanding with the parties making the selection on behalf of the several denominations, that the Legislature would require of them a condition that the property should only be used for religious purposes, and that some time would be fixed within which suitable houses of worship, costing some reasonable minimum amount, should be erected.

"The commissioners have also reserved lot 13, in block 101, for the use of the Independent Order of Good Templars; lot 14, in block 101, for the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and lot 15, in block 101, for the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. We respectfully ask the Legislature to confirm our action in respect to all the reservations.

"The surveying of the town was done in a most careful manner, and with the utmost patience, and we believe that the lines are so well established that future litigation about 'lapping' of lots will be practically impossible. In every third street running north and south and every fourth or fifth street running east and west, there were set, at the center of intersection with every other street, a stone monument, even with the surface, in the top of which a mark was fixed at the exact point of crossing the lines. The work occupied Messrs. Harvey and Smith, and a double party of assistants, constantly, until the 10th day of September, when having staked off every lot in town, except in a few blocks in the northwest part of the northwest quarter upon the 'Saline land,' the work was completed.

"In anticipation of the completion of the survey, and to insure parties pur-

chasing the lots in time to build upon them for winter, and an early provision of the means of commencing work upon the state house, the commissioners, upon the 17th day of August, issued their advertisement for the first sale of lots, to be held on the 17th day of September.

"This advertisement was authorized to be printed in such newspaper as could give it the widest circulation. Upon the day of sale the weather, which had been excessively disagreeable for nearly a week, culminated in a cold, drizzly rain, in consequence of which not more than one hundred persons were present, and but few of these the bidders we had expected. The aspect of affairs was disheartening. Persons who had loudly boasted of their great expectations in buying lots and building houses; others who had been lavish in prophecies of the unparalleled success of the enterprise; others who had been free with advice to us in regard to appraisements and sales—these, and still others, who were certainly expected to be on the ground and foremost in purchasing, had given us the cold shoulder, and were not present nor within hearing. Indeed, your commissioners almost felt that failure was after all to be the result.

"However, the first lot was put up, and after some delay in getting a bidder, it was sold to J. G. Miller, Esq., for an advance of 25 cents on the appraisement of \$40.

"This small beginning was an index to the proceedings for the day, and when the evening closed, the sales footing up to about one-tenth of our expectations, our spirits or our hopes were in nowise improved.

"The second and third days gave a better result, and on the fourth and fifth, sunshine having come again, bringing more persons to the sales, and getting everyone to feeling well, the bidding became encouraging, and the summing up of the five days' offering was nearly, if not quite, satisfactory.

"The sales here at this time amounted to about thirty-four thousand dollars.

"The offering of lots was continued at Nebraska City from the 23d to the 27th of September, inclusive, and in Omaha on the 30th of September to the 4th of October.

"The sales at Nebraska City and Omaha amounted to about nineteen thousand dollars, and aggregated, with the amount at Lincoln, about fifty-three thousand dollars, a sum sufficiently large to dispel all despondency and warrant renewed exertions.

"We again met an obstacle which for a little while promised a good deal of trouble.

"Under the 'Capitol Bill' your commissioners were required to pay over the amount received from the sales of lots to the state treasurer, and pay all expenditures by warrants upon the state treasurer building fund held by that officer. We have, in this regard, to plead guilty to a technical violation of law. Except the sum of \$148, none of the money received by us has ever been paid over.

"As soon as the town was surveyed, there began rumors that the enemies of the enterprise were determined to defeat it if possible, and that nothing which could accomplish that end would be left undone.

"We were assured in the most reliable quarters that one of these defeating means would be the enjoining of the treasurer against the payment of money upon warrants upon the building fund, an effort which, even if the injunction had not in the end been sustained, in the ordinary course of the courts, would

have prevented active operations until it should be too late to secure the erection of the state house.

"In consequence of this rumor, well founded as it seemed to be, hundreds of persons who would otherwise have invested largely in Lincoln lots, declined so doing; others who had purchased or bid off lots, hesitated about paying the money and taking their certificates; while others became so fearful of a bad result, that they even applied to the commissioners for a restoration of the amounts paid and a cancellation of their certificates.

"At this juncture some friends of the enterprise, who were sureties upon our official bond, called upon the others, and prepared and furnished us with the following protest:

"(Copy)

"Nebraska City, November 23, 1867.

"To the Honorable David Butler, Thomas P. Kennard, and John Gillespie, commissioners:

"Gentlemen: The undersigned having become sureties on your official bonds for the faithful performance of your duties as commissioners, respectfully beg leave to formally protest against the deposit of any of the funds received by you from the sale of state property with the state treasurer, for the following reasons:

"1st. Because it has been repeatedly intimated by the enemies of the present capital location, that all moneys so deposited will be attached and held, so as to defeat the wishes of a majority of the people of the state by preventing the erection of the capitol buildings till after the sitting of the next Legislature.

"2d. Because we, having in good faith become sureties, not as a personal favor to the commissioners, but to secure the success of the proposed location and early completion of the capitol buildings, are unwilling that the enterprise should either be defeated or delayed by useless litigation. We therefore, respectfully but earnestly, request the commissioners to withhold the funds which may now be in their hands, as well as those which may yet be received, and deposit them with those bankers who have made themselves sureties, and who may furnish the commissioners satisfactory security for the prompt payment of the money deposited with them.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

"D. J. McCANN,

"FREDERICK RENNER,

"GEORGE MOHRENSTECKER,

"SAMUEL B. SUBLEY,

"H. KENNEDY,

"JOHN HAMLIN,

"THOMAS B. STEVENSON,

"D. WHITINGER,

"S. McCONIGA,

"ROBERT HAWK,

"JAMES SWEET.'

"Under the circumstances which surrounded us, and being unwilling to jeopardize the money held by us as the representatives of the state in trust for the persons who had advanced it upon the risk of the success of the Town of

Lincoln, we felt that we could not do otherwise than accede to the demand and protest of our sureties, and having made satisfactory arrangements for the deposit and withdrawal of the funds with private bankers, we did so, and have assumed all the responsibility of the financial affairs of the enterprise.

"On June 17, 1868, we held a sale of lots at Lincoln, and realized about nine thousand dollars.

"On the 17th of September we again sold at Lincoln, and received about thirteen thousand five hundred and eighty dollars.

"At the sale in September, 1867, and June, 1868, we had offered lots only in the alternate or even numbered blocks, with those in four odd numbered blocks to make up for half of the reserved blocks, all of which, except the courthouse square, fell upon odd numbers. At the last sale, in September, 1868, we offered the lots in the odd numbered blocks on the old townsite of Lancaster. The presumption of the authority to make this sale was upon the consideration of our occupancy of the ground. We accepted it from the proprietors as so much over the Town of Lincoln proper, and excess beyond the section and a quarter which we had located as the capital, as an addition to the town, for the purpose of having no rival in the business of selling town lots upon ground adjacent to the capitol, and where having a village already established, the proprietors could easily have derived large profits, which otherwise would have been invested with the state. Besides, the building of the town had so far been accomplished in the direction of and upon that quarter that the appreciated value of property in second hands made it so probable that we could realize more money from a few lots there than from many upon the south side of the townsite proper; and standing in need of much more money than we had reason to believe these last-named lots would bring, we deemed it advisable to offer all that were then unsold.

"The lots were appraised prior to the first sale, according to the law, due consideration being had to their relative situation regarding the public reservation, and the probable business center, and their particular condition.

"This appraisement amounted to a total of.....	\$68,000.00
"The appraisement on the lots sold was.....	63,475.00
"The advance on appraisement at all the sales was.....	13,145.75
"Making the total sales at Lincoln, September, 1867....	\$34,342.25
"At Nebraska City, September, 1867.....	18,745.50
"At Omaha, September, 1867.....	1,005.00
"At Lincoln, June, 1868.....	8,970.00
"At Lincoln, September, 1868.....	13,553.00

---

"Total .....\$76,715.75

"Accompanying this report, appendix marked 'B' will contain a detailed statement of the purchasers of lots, of the lots purchased, and their prices. (Note: This complicated list of names and figures will not be given in this work, but is available in Volume I, Nebraska Miscellaneous Documents, at the state house. The names of the purchasers and the prices paid is given upon a following page, omitting the technical description of the lots.)

"On the 10th of September the commissioners issued their notice to architects, inviting for a period of thirty days plans and specifications for a state house. In response Messrs. Taggart & W. R. Craig, of Nebraska City, and John Morris, of Chicago, submitted the drawings and specifications of designs. Upon the 10th of October, after a careful consideration of their merits severally we decided to accept that presented by Mr. Morris, as being best adapted to the circumstances of construction and the wants of the state. On the same day Mr. Morris, having been appointed superintendent of construction, issued a notice to builders, inviting proposals for a term of three months, for the erection of the work. At the same time Mr. Morris was directed to commence such preliminary work, as excavation for foundations, delivery of material for foundation walls, and other arrangements as would facilitate the progress of the work after the contract was let.

"On the 10th of November the superintendent caused the ground to be broken, in the presence of a number of the citizens of Lancaster. The removal of the first earth was awarded, in the absence of any state officer, to Master Frele Morton Donovan, the first child born in and the youngest child of the oldest settler of Lancaster County.

"On the 11th of January the bid of Mr. Joseph Ward, proposing to furnish the material and labor and erect the building, for the sum of \$49,000, was accepted, and from that time forward the work steadily progressed, with a few uncontrollable delays, to the completion of the work contemplated in the contract."

#### CONVEYANCER'S REPORT

"To His Excellency,

"David Butler, Hon. Thomas P. Kennard and John Gillespie, commissioners for the location of the seat of government of the State of Nebraska, under and by virtue of an act of the Legislature of said state, entitled, 'An act to provide for the location of the seat of government of the State of Nebraska, and for the erection of public buildings thereat.' Approved June 14, 1867.

"Gentlemen: In pursuance of your instructions, appointing me the examiner of the titles and conveyancer of the lands selected by your commission as the capital and seat of government of the State of Nebraska, I have the honor to submit the following report of my operations in the capacity of conveyancer on behalf of the state, as defined by your appointment.

"That on the 30th day of July, 1867, I commenced the investigation of the titles to all those certain tracts of land situated in the County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska known and described as the west half of the northwest, and the west half of the southwest, quarters of section No. 25, the east half and southwest quarter of section No. 26 in township No. 10 north of range No. 6 east of the sixth principal meridian, according to the Government survey of said state, containing 640 acres, and proposed to be conveyed by the respective owners of the state in fee simple, as a gratuity, in consideration that such lands should be selected as the townsite of 'Lincoln,' the 'seat of government of the State of Nebraska,' and found that the several owners could make a perfect title in fee simple to the state, in the lands above described, whereupon, on the 2d day of August, 1867, Jacob Dawson and Editha J., his wife, by deed, containing covenant of warranty, conveyed to the State of Nebraska all those certain pieces or parcels

of land situated in the County of Lancaster, and State of Nebraska, known and described as 'the west half of the southwest quarter of section No. 25 and east half of section No. 26, in township No. 10 north of range No. 6 east of the sixth principal meridian according to the Government survey, containing 400 acres,' which tracts of land now comprise part of the townsite of Lincoln; and which deed was duly acknowledged and certified and recorded in the office of the clerk of the County of Lancaster, in book 'A' of deeds at page 121. On the same day Luke Lavender and Mary, his wife, executed a deed with covenant of warranty, conveying in fee simple, to the State of Nebraska, all that certain tract of land situated in the County of Lancaster, and State of Nebraska, known and described as the west half of the northwest quarter of section No. 25 in township No. 10 north of range No. 6 east of the sixth principal meridian, according to the Government survey of said state, containing eighty acres, which tract of land now comprises part of the townsite of Lincoln, and which deed was duly acknowledged and certified and recorded in the office of the clerk of Lancaster County, in book 'A' of deeds at page 122; and on the same day Joseph Giles, by deed, containing covenant of warranty, conveyed to the State of Nebraska all that certain tract of land situated in the County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, known and described as the southwest quarter of section No. 26, in township No. 10 north of range No. 6, east of the sixth principal meridian, according to the Government survey of said state, containing 160 acres, which deed was duly acknowledged and certified and recorded in the office of the clerk of Lancaster County, in book 'A' of deeds at page 119, and which tract of land is now comprised in the said townsite of Lincoln.

"In compliance with your instructions, on the 7th day of August, 1867, I proceeded to the investigation of the title to that certain tract of land situated in the County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, known as the southeast quarter of section No. 23, in township No. 10 north of range No. 6 east of the sixth principal meridian, according to the Government survey of said state, containing 160 acres, and more particularly known as the 'old townsite of Lancaster,' having in contemplation, in such investigation, as you suggested to me, the acceptance thereof as part of the townsite of Lincoln, the seat of government of the State of Nebraska, should my researches into the title prove satisfactory to the state in regard to the result of such investigation, I beg leave to refer you to my communication addressed you on the subject, which was as follows:

"Lancaster, August 10, 1867.

"Messrs. Commissioners of Location of the Seat of Government of the State of Nebraska.

"Gentlemen: Having examined into the titles covering the townsite of "Lancaster," I find that the land was entered at the United States Land Office by Julian Metcalf, Esq., of Nebraska City, to whom it has been patented by the general Government. Mr. Metcalf afterwards conveyed to Rev. John M. Young, of this place, by whom the townsite of Lancaster was surveyed and platted as a townsite. A portion of the lots in the townsite have been conveyed, by Mr. Young, to the County of Lancaster, a portion to the Lancaster Seminary Association and other portions to Prof. Jason G. Miller, and other individuals, while these grantees of the original townsite proprietor have parceled out the lots to various parties, by conveyances that are more or less defective, and in some

instances so informal and defective as to be absolutely inoperative as conveyances of real property. The owners are so scattered throughout many states, and their places of residence unknown to residents here, it will be very difficult, if not impossible, in the short period to intervene before the location must be selected, as directed by the statute, to secure such title to the land as the act contemplates shall be vested in the state.

"I would therefore respectfully recommend that, in as much as the state now holds title to "not less than six hundred and forty acres," the amount of land required by the act, that Lancaster be accepted only as an addition, as it were, to the townsite of Lincoln, under an arrangement to be made with the several owners thereof, that at least seven-eighths of the whole townsite should be released by them to the state, and that it shall be surveyed to conform with the survey to be made of "Lincoln," this, with the townsite proper of Lincoln to be platted as "Lincoln," and the legal and equitable owners of lots in Lancaster, who cannot afford to, or will not release to the state, to be assigned lots, in the new survey of old Lancaster, as such part of Lincoln, as near as possible the original lots they respectively owned in Lancaster, and of the same specified area, upon their signing an agreement to submit to a resurvey and releasing their interest in Lancaster townsite on receiving a deed from the state for the lots so assigned to them.

"In view of the distrust felt among the people, as to the success of this "capitol move," I believe this would enable the commissioners to realize a much larger sum on the sale of lots, as the whole number of lots on old Lancaster belonging to the state could be sold, without violating in letter or spirit the law under which you are acting; and is necessary in order to realize the requisite funds to successfully carry forward the object of your commission.

"As to making the northwest quarter of section 26, township 10, north of No. 6, east of the sixth principal meridian, known as part of the Saline lands of Nebraska, a part of Lincoln, I would respectfully recommend that it be surveyed and platted as a part of the townsite, but, it would not be advisable to offer any of the lots at the sale unless at the time of the sale the title shall have been confirmed by the General Government to the state, for until that shall be done, these lands cannot be regarded under the law, as "the property of the state," and until such confirmation, the state cannot convey title to the purchaser.

"I find that Mr. Giles, Mr. Dawson, and Mr. Lavender's titles to the 640 acres, proposed to be conveyed to the state by them, for the capital is perfect, and have therefore taken the necessary deeds to the state and had them recorded.

"If you should conclude to adopt my suggestions in regard to "old Lancaster" townsite, I will proceed to gather in the conveyances and title thereto, to the state.

"I am very respectfully,

"JAMES SWEET."

"That upon receiving a reply to such communication, requesting that the title to 'old Lancaster' should be investigated and secured to the state, as far as possible, I proceeded with the search and found on record, title deeds to E. H. Hardenbergh, Charles Crawford, Jacob R. Hardenbergh, Martin Pflug, William T. Donovan, Minnie E. Jennings, George B. Hardenbergh, S. B. Galey, Lancaster

County, Lancaster Seminary Association, M. A. Bridges, Jason G. Miller, James Sweet, George H. Hilton, Charles Bloyd, G. W. Merrill, and Nancy McKesson, under which deeds of conveyances, the whole of the lands, covered by the townsite of Lancaster, were held, and also, there were several outstanding certificates of purchase for lots in the townsite, executed by various parties, grantees in the deeds above referred to, whose names will fully appear in the schedule hereto annexed, marked 'G,' to whom it was agreed lots in the new survey of Lancaster as part of Lincoln, should be conveyed as equivalent for their respective interest in Lancaster townsite.

"I immediately entered, on behalf of the Commissioners, into an agreement with the majority of the owners, legal and equitable, of the lots in Lancaster townsite, to submit to a resurvey of that townsite as a part, or addition to the town of 'Lincoln,' and upon conveying to the state their respective interests in Lancaster, to receive deeds from the state, to them respectively, for lots in that part of the town of Lincoln covering the townsite of Lancaster, at, or as near as practicable, the site of their original lots, which agreement is hereto annexed, marked schedule 'F'.

"I then entered upon the duty of obtaining title deeds from the respective owners of the lots in Lancaster, for the lots by them owned, to the state, and under such arrangement, the following named persons executed deeds to the state:

"Jason G. Miller and Mary P., his wife; Lancaster County; Lancaster Seminary; John M. Young and Alice, his wife; William A. Bridges and Mary A., his wife; Nancy A. McKesson and John M., her husband; Milton Langdon and Ann M., his wife; James Sweet and Clementine E., his wife; Charles Crawford; and William W. Dunham and Mary E., his wife; which deeds cover the whole title to said townsite of Lancaster, except to lots 3, 4, 5 and 6, in block No. 36, and lots No. 1 and 2, in block 48, owned by G. W. Merrill, whose place of residence I have not been able to ascertain, and for whom I hold a deed, executed by the state, to said Merrill for lots Nos. 1 and 2 in block No. 15 and lots Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12 in block No. 27, in the townsite of Lincoln, to deliver to him as an equivalent for his said lots in Lancaster; and except to lots No. 3 and 4 in block No. 8 in the townsite of Lancaster, owned by Charles Bloyd, from whom I have not been able to obtain a deed to the state, but am informed he is ready to execute such deed, whenever I shall be ready to meet him, for whose interest in such lots I hold a deed, executed by the state, to said Bloyd, for lots Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 14 in block No. 45, in the townsite of Lincoln, as an equivalent for his interest, as aforesaid, in old Lancaster; and except to lots No. 1 and 2 in block No. 23, in said Lancaster, to which lots the legal title rests in Mrs. Minnie E. Jennings of Lincoln, subject to the lien of a mortgage in process of foreclosure, held and owned by William A. Brown, of Nebraska City, and on account of the conflicting title to and lien on such lots, I have not been able to secure the execution of a deed from all the parties interested therein to the state; therefore, I have procured a deed to be executed by the state, to Mrs. Minnie E. Jennings, to lots No. 1 and 2 in block No. 33, in Lincoln, as an equivalent for said lots 1 and 2 in block 23, in Lancaster, to be delivered whenever she shall convey or cause to be conveyed to the state, a good title to the lots last above described.

"In my examination into the title to Lancaster townsite, I discovered that



Mrs. Julian Metcalf, as the wife of Julian Metcalf, possessed an inchoate right of dower in all the lands comprising the said townsite of Lancaster, and therefore procured to be executed and delivered to the State of Nebraska, by Julian Metcalf and Julia B., his wife, a release of all their right, title and interest in and to the lands, covered by such townsite, which deed of release was duly acknowledged, certified and is on record in the office of the clerk of Lancaster County.

"I have caused all the conveyances so executed to the state, together with the patents for the land, and certificates of entry, to be recorded in the office of the clerk of Lancaster County, and have deposited the same with the other muniments of title, in the office of the secretary of state.

"All of which is respectfully submitted,

"JAMES SWEET."

#### REMOVING THE STATE ARCHIVES

On a December morning in the year 1868 six four-horse teams left Lincoln for Omaha to procure the state archives and bring them to the new capitol here. After a hard day's drive they arrived at Ashland, then a woe-begone hamlet with a tenement. After resting here the caravan crossed the Platte River at Forest, several miles north of Ashland. The ice proved very troublesome at this crossing, also the ferryman, but eventually they reached the eastern side and bivouacked for the night around a straw stack in the brush. The next morning the party proceeded upon the journey and in the afternoon arrived at the old Douglas House in Omaha.

Omaha at this time was enduring a boom, due in great part to the coming of the transcontinental railway. From the river to capital hill the streets were filled with men carrying packs, dressed in frontier style; stalking Indians, new business men, women of the demi-monde, and in fact all the different characters one might associate with a frontier town such as Omaha. Dancehouses, saloons and gambling dens were thick. All Union Pacific trains starting for the West were guarded by Pawnee scouts against the Sioux in Western Nebraska.

The Lincoln party found Auditor Gillespie and then started preparations for moving the archives. There were stoves, furniture, records, blanks, books, boxes of paper and the state library to pack and most of it was encased in convenient shoe boxes. The wagons filled, the procession moved down Farnum Street, where U. S. Marshal Yost met them and added a barrel of cider to the load, labeled T. P. Kennard. The overland train soon left the city of Omaha behind and, after encountering a warm rain and muddy roads, arrived at Bellevue just at night-fall. The next night was spent at Kimball's Ferry, three miles above La Platte. The Kimball brothers were grafters of the worst kind and, in order to hold the party up for fees, purposely broke the pulley wheel on the ferry. At this point the Lincoln men were joined by Tom Keeler, a desperado, afterward killed by Dan Parmalee at Elkhorn. Keeler volunteered to see that the party was taken across the river in the morning. The Kimballs were afraid to bring down the wrath of the noted Keeler and loaded the teams and wagons upon the ferry, after fixing the pulley wheel. In midstream a cake of ice struck the boat and they were driven upon a sand bar, and prevented from reaching the south bank by 100 feet.

The teams were driven off the ferry into two feet of water and forced to the shore. Shortly afterwards the train met a blinding storm and was delayed. After a night spent in a log house on the present site of Greenwood, and breakfast there, the six wagons proceeded to Lincoln, where the archives of the state were installed in the state capitol.

## CHAPTER VIII

### JOHN MORRIS' REPORT ON STATE HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

"To His Excellency, the Governor, and the Honorable, the Commissioners for locating the Capitol and building the new State House—

"Gentlemen: The plan submitted by me in competition for the new state house having received the favor of your approval and adoption, and having also received your instructions to make preliminary arrangements for an early and energetic progress of the necessary works in the erection of the building according to the plan submitted, I immediately put forth advertisements for bids for the construction, in accordance with the statute wherein it is required that three months should be allowed to contractors for making their estimates and submitting offers. As the time for building so as to be ready for the next general assembly would be limited, I, with your approval and directions, committed to Mr. Joseph Ward, of Chicago, the charge of taking such measures in anticipation of a contract as would facilitate the progress of the building, during the three months intervening before a contract could be legally entered into, and about the middle of the month of November, 1867, excavation for the foundation and the sinking for a well was begun and was continued. Such material was delivered about the beginning of December, a small quantity of blocks of limestone was delivered, which was got from the quarry, donated by Mr. Mills, to the use of the state, to supply stone for the state house, and the stone cutters brought from Chicago were set at work on the 10th of the month. The excavations were mostly done, the basement walls were built to the height of four feet eight inches, and the foundations of a part of the north end were done during the month of December. From the 7th of January, 1868, till the 20th of February, stone cutting and quarrying and delivery of rubble stone was all that was in progress. In the meantime the period for receiving bids for the execution of the works having expired on the 11th of January, I then received an offer from Mr. Ward to do the work according to the plans and specifications for \$49,000.00 and there being no other bid the contract was awarded to him. Very shortly after the contract was made the supply of limestone for cut work began to fail and the quality of the stone to deteriorate to such an extent that the expenses upon the cost of the stone for cut work were more than doubled, nor could the supply be furnished sufficiently fast to admit of the building being erected within the required time. I should state here that the cause of this increase in cost and delay arose from the fact that two upper strata of stone which had been calculated on for use, were found to be worthless for cut work, and yet had to be removed before good stone could be got. There was about ten feet of earth stripping, then two strata of bad stone, then fourteen inches of shale, and below this was only one stratum of good stone about

nine inches thick. A part of this stratum was also unfit for use as cut stone. It had been hoped and expected that as the quarry was more developed, that the stone would improve, and an underlying bed of greater thickness be found, but this also turned out to be worthless. About the end of February about three thousand cubic feet of stone for cutting had been quarried, about two thousand only being fit for use, and this was used in the building. To get this quantity more than two thousand cubic yards of earth, bed rock and shale had to be removed. I have estimated the loss to the contractor upon this item to be at least four thousand dollars, whilst, in order to adapt one thickness of nine inches only to all purposes in the building entailed a further loss by additional cutting to the value of at least five hundred dollars more. On the 28th of February I received a letter from the contractor of which the following is a copy:

" 'Lincoln, February 28, 1868.

" 'John Morris, Esq.,

" 'Dear Sir: I have now spent four days in seeking for stone suitable for carrying on our works at the state house, and find none suitable for the purpose. Mr. Malcom opened the quarry near to Mr. Paley's lot yesterday. The stone is sound, but is so broken up in its bed that large stone cannot be obtained suitable for our purpose. I received forty-two feet of stone last evening from the old quarry (Mr. Mill's) and this amount has cost me seven men's work of six days each, or at about the rate of ?——? dollars per foot. It will be totally impossible to procure stone at Mill's quarry to build the state house, and any further quantity we get from this source will be at a cost much above the price as stated. I think it absolutely necessary that you should see to making such arrangements from some other source so that the work may be carried on. I expect I will go with you to Beatrice to see the lot of stone quarried, and which I am told is for sale, or for such other stone as you may consider suitable for the purpose.

" 'I am yours respectfully,

" 'JOSEPH WARD.'

"Upon receipt of this letter I came to the conclusion that to continue the use of the blue limestone would only end in ruin to the contractor and consequently an abandonment of the contract, and would ultimately entail far greater cost in the erection of the building than would arise by any additional sum that may have to be allowed for a change of material, and also, render it impossible to complete it in the required time. I therefore, immediately, with the contractor, proceeded to Beatrice to examine the nature and supply of the rock exposures there, of which I had previously heard. Upon my inspection of the Beatrice rock, I was exceedingly pleased to find an unlimited supply of an excellent material, which was in every way adapted to the nature of the works proposed to be done in the state house.

"I did not hesitate to direct that this material should be used instead of the blue limestone. I was more readily drawn to adopt this course by my knowledge that stone of this character was far better than the blue limestone, as being less liable to wear or damage from frost or fire or any other action of the elements.

"I could not but know my course in this matter would justly cause the contractor to make a claim for some compensation beyond his contract consideration,

but I was then, and am now convinced this course would be found to be by far the most economical in the end, and would insure the erection by the time the general assembly would need the building. In my estimate of extras annexed hereunto, I have allowed some six thousand dollars for the increased cost by the adoption of this excellent building stone, but that amount does not cover the loss already then sustained by the contractor by using the limestone up to the period when the change was necessary. It is my duty therefore to respectfully submit for your consideration whether any and what compensation can be allowed to the contractor to cover his loss for work done under and included in the provisions of the contract. After some trouble in arriving at a just value of the extra cost of the haulage of stone from Beatrice, the works proceeded in the spring with vigor for a short time; about April, however, several of the stone cutters, brought here at considerable expense, left and returned to Chicago, and their places could not then be filled by others, and from those that then remained a demand for increased wages was made, and after some negotiation, was perforce complied with, or a complete suspension of the work would have resulted. The rate of wages demanded was greater than any previously paid in Nebraska, so far as I could ascertain, and greater than the contractor supposed he would have to pay when he made his estimate and contract. It was also found that about that time it would be impossible to procure (sufficiently early) bricks for the internal walls, as contemplated in the design and contract for the building. I was therefore compelled, by the circumstances, to use sandstone and in some parts to increase the thickness of the walls, as a necessary precaution to insure the stability of the fabric. The increased cost I have allowed in my annexed account. As it was not known how the accommodation provided for the executive officers would be appropriated, no safes were provided and located in the original design; two safes and some additional doors with other minor improvements, which, when the several rooms were specifically appropriated, suggested themselves during the progress of the erection, have been added, mainly according to your directions, and the costs thereof set forth in the annexed account.

"As time was necessarily made an important item in the contract, it has become my duty, also, to take into consideration that as the new state house and capitol were located at a somewhat remote point from the most settled portion of the state and where the facilities for building on a large scale were comparatively few, and moreover, the additional time necessary to execute the added works before mentioned required an extension of time for the completion, I am obliged to recognize a principle (already established in equity, in all places in my knowledge) that of extending the time proportionally for the completion of the contract works, and I therefore recommend the extension until the first day of January, 1869. I believe it proper also to bring to your notice the effect that weather had upon the progress of the work, for a period of about five weeks in the spring and six weeks in the fall; the rain was so excessive as to prevent the employes making more time than an average of four and a half days each week. During the great heat of the summer, also, for a time extending over about seven weeks there was a great deal of sickness among the workmen; an average of seven men were absent daily. It was impossible in this new place to supply labor enough to compensate for the loss of time occasioned thereby; a combined effect of these several causes was to drive the completion of the work into short days and

inclement weather, so much so that for fifty days about thirty men could not work more than nine hours each day and the wages could not be proportionately decreased, but in some cases had to be increased. I believe from the causes the contractor lost about six hundred dollars, the principal causes of loss therefore to the contractor arose, first, from use of limestone before the change to Beatrice stone, \$4,500.00; from excessive wages, \$3,300.00; and by short days, \$600.00. There were some other minor causes which it is difficult to estimate, but I cannot base the estimate of losses that could not be foreseen at less than \$9,000. I desire earnestly to submit for your consideration, whether you can, without damage to the interests of the state, the integrity of the contract and the provisions of the constitution, ameliorate his loss. With the exception of the delays noticed, the work was pushed with vigor, the utmost progress was made in good weather by availing every hour that could be turned to account, and by employing all the labor that could be commanded. By the first of June, 1868, the first story was up and in August following, a portion of the walls was up to the roof, and in September a part of the roof was on and all finishings in an advanced state.

"In conclusion I think it is incumbent on me to remark that on a comparison of the bulk and stability of the building with several court houses, school houses and churches you will have (after all proper allowances and reliefs to the contractor are made) the cheapest and most substantial edifice west of the Mississippi River, and also, to remark that the contractor by thoroughly identifying himself with the work, by the exercise of great energy, and by practicing a strictly watchful care over the expenditure is entitled to praise, that the works included in his contract were brought to completion.

"In view of the amount of work done and the time occupied and under such signal disadvantages, I believe there has been reached a financial result which is comparatively favorable to the state.

"I have the honor to remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant.

"JOHN MORRIS, Superintendent.

"Lincoln, July 30, 1869."

#### BILL OF EXTRAS

Increased thickness of foundation and walls.....	\$ 902.27
Providing for sewer.....	15.74
For fireproof safes.....	771.82
For limestone pillars in halls instead of sandstone.....	1,853.71
For chimney shafts.....	473.37
Provisions for extension of library.....	20.00
For three additional windows.....	315.00
For additional doors, internal.....	290.00
For two additional closets.....	59.59
For ceiling ventilators.....	53.20
For two ventilating windows.....	42.00
Extra plastering.....	739.75
For flag staff.....	43.64
For angle staffs.....	34.19



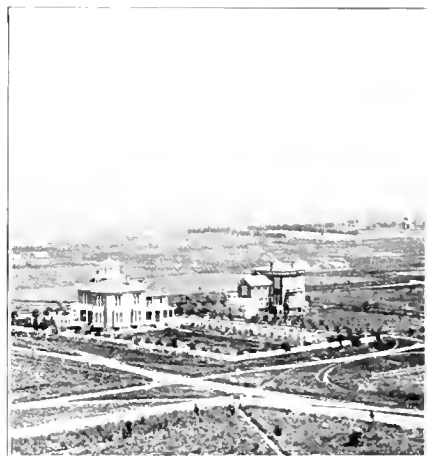
Looking northeast from the Capitol,  
about 1870



View from Capitol showing Episcopal Church,  
Twelfth and K streets, about 1870



View showing high school, looking north of  
Capitol, about 1871



View from Capitol grounds looking south-  
east, showing homes of T. P. Kennard and  
John Gillespie, about 1871.

#### EARLY SCENES IN LINCOLN

[From Clement's Collection of Early Nebraska Photographs. Property of and used by  
permission of Nebraska History Seminar, State University]





Extra on water closets.....	753.64
Difference for patent tinbls, etc.....	127.00
For change of facing stone.....	10,822.30
Safes fittings.....	62.75
Library fittings.....	537.90
Speakers' platforms and desks.....	126.85
Two dressers.....	39.00
Supreme court platform, etc.....	60.40
Wood boxes and ash well curb.....	75.00
Gallery benches.....	57.10
Shelves on clerks' desks and letter boxes.....	23.95
Two stepladders.....	14.00
Hat rails and pegs.....	20.00
Five days labor jobbing.....	17.50
Four washstands for offices.....	44.50
Copying press stands.....	8.20

## THE FIRST STATE CAPITOL

By Thomas Malloy

NOTE: The following paper was prepared for the Nebraska State Historical Society by Mr. Malloy in 1899.

In the month of November, 1867, I was hired in Chicago by contractor Joseph Ward, who had the contract of building the first state capitol. There were also twelve other stone-cutters who came West to Lincoln, Nebraska, with me. We were to receive \$4.50 per day as soon as we began work. He paid our way as far as Omaha, and then transferred us back to Council Bluffs, from which place we went to Nebraska City. Here we rested for a day and a night. There were two teams hired to bring our tool chests and trunks from the depot on the Iowa side across by ferry to Nebraska City. We had guns and revolvers to protect ourselves from the Indians. Before we left Nebraska City we were advised to get blankets and moccasins, as it looked as if there was a storm coming. Sure enough the storm did come after we left for Lincoln. We had to walk and run all of the way behind the wagons to keep ourselves from freezing the first day. I believe the moccasins we bought saved our lives on the road. The first day we came as far as a place where there was one shanty on each side of a creek. One was occupied by a man by the name of Wallen and the other by a man named Luff, old pioneers on the Nemaha near Unadilla. The owners of the houses were scared of us until we told them where we were going. Then they divided us between the two houses. One house kept seven men and the other five. Lucky enough they had some bread, coffee and bacon. They did the best they possibly could for us, but such sleeping apartments! A loft in the peak of each shanty, with loose boards for a floor, on which we slept. And such a night! We lay on the floor with our lucky blankets rolled around us and kept ourselves as warm as we could. Next morning we had breakfast of the same variety of food as the night before, paid our bill, and thanked the pioneer gentlemen for their kind treatment. Then we started for Lincoln and arrived at the Pioneer Hotel at 9 o'clock that night.

This hotel was owned by Mr. Scroggins and was north of where the State Journal building is at present on Ninth Street. The number at the hotel that night after we signed our names on the register was sixty-five. The hotel was well filled with lodgers, consisting of laborers, mechanics, doctors and a few lawyers. The next morning we went to see where our job was to be. A few men went with us and pointed out the place. To our great surprise there was nothing for us to see but the trenches dug for the foundation. There was no material in the way of stone. So we were badly discouraged. What could we do, out in the wilderness of Nebraska and our families in Chicago? At this time the contractor was on his way from Chicago to Lincoln, three days behind us. We patiently waited for him to come and when he did come we met him determined to do something desperate. In fact we were going to hang him. When he saw the material was not on hand for us to go to work, he there and then told us not to be uneasy, that he would see that we got our wages, work or play, according to the agreement as the state was good for it. So that pacified us. We were idle two weeks before the rock came in. He paid us full time. We then built a sod boarding house on the capitol grounds and boarded all the men working on the building. A man and team were hired to haul all the things required for the table from Nebraska City. That was good board at \$5.00, so we were all well satisfied up until the first of April, 1868. At that time a man by the name of Felix Carr came from Omaha with a letter from Governor Butler to the contractor, Mr. Ward. This man made a deal with Mr. Ward, who rented the boarding house to Mr. Carr. Then Mr. Carr went back to Omaha and brought out his wife and family to run the boarding house. He also brought out two big barrels of whiskey. Then we saw what was up. We held a meeting and resolved to boycott the whiskey, as the boys were all saving their money at this time. A few days after he invited some of the men to have a drink, but they refused, and he was greatly surprised to see such a large number of men in a big building like a state capitol all sober. But one wet day came, and some of the masons broke the boycott about a month after the whiskey came. This continued for a week. I watched an opportunity at night when they were all asleep and crept to the barrel and turned the faucet. I then went back to bed. The whiskey kept running all night on the floor and down the cracks, until the barrel was empty. In the morning the smell of whiskey was all over the boarding house. The man Carr became tearing mad. He carried a brace of revolvers at the breakfast table and threatened the man or men who committed the crime of emptying the barrel of its contents. But he did not shoot. A few days after all the stone-cutters left the boarding house and went to Mr. Lane's new boarding house on O Street. He was foreman carpenter.

Mr. Felix Carr left in a few weeks and never paid Mr. Ward a cent of rent; took his blankets, dishes, even the stove, spoons, and knives. He was never seen in Lincoln again.

In the spring of 1868 the prairie was covered with camp wagons, consisting of bull teams, mule teams and horse teams, all seeking out section stones and taking up homesteads and preemptions in Lancaster County. The land office was in Nebraska City at this time. All available teams were employed hauling lumber from Nebraska City and stone from Beatrice for the state capitol. Frame houses were springing up in all directions. Carpenters, masons and plasterers were in demand. Auction sales were conducted by Thomas Hyde, auctioneer, selling city

lots at that time to pay the expenses of building the capitol. The money in circulation at that time was known as greenbacks, and was easily carried in one's pocket, not being so heavy as gold.

In the fall of the same year, 1868, politics were getting lively. There were two liberty poles planted on top of a hill called Market Square at that time, north of where the postoffice is now built, between O and P streets. One was a democratic pole and the other a republican, both with the Stars and Stripes flying from the top. The republican pole was taller than the other, being spliced. But some wicked villain came around one night, threw a rope around the top of it and kept pulling at it until it cracked, and broke in two pieces across the top of the hill. In the morning when the men were going to work, they only saw one pole with the Stars and Stripes flying and that was the democratic pole. When the report went around town the people gathered in swarms to see the broken liberty pole. There was nothing but weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth among the old veterans of the late war. Finally there was a colored barber by the name of Johnston who lived west of the hill on Ninth Street reported that he heard the crack of the pole when it fell and that he saw a man running toward the livery barn of Dunbar and Jones on west O Street. Suspicion fell upon young Jones because he was a southern democrat, and he was taken and a guard placed over him. The Moore brothers and other veterans of the war went to George Ballentine's lumber yard, got lumber and built a scaffold on top of the hill where the pole lay. The scaffold was built on which to hang Jones and his trial was to be held that evening before Judge Cadman. The democrats got very uneasy and sent word out toward Salt Creek and other places around Lincoln to be in at the hanging. Many of them came in and waited until the trial commenced. Judge Cadman called the case and the witness appeared. He said he heard a loud noise of something cracking, and he looked out and saw a man running toward the barn. "Did you know the man?" "No, sir." "Any more witnesses?" There were none. "I discharge the prisoner for want of further prosecution." So there was no hanging on the scaffold in 1868.

In 1868 Robert Silvers got the contract for the building of the state university. The first thing he did was to start a brick yard. He bought all the wood he could find in the country and had to haul it with teams, as there were no railroads here at that time. He hauled the foundation stone from Yankee Hill, which was of sand rock. This was of little account. There was no other stone around Lincoln at that time with which to build foundations. The first bank at the corner of Tenth and O streets was built of it. At that time Mr. Silvers did not know how to find stone for the steps at the three principal entrances, south, east and west, to the university. He told me to search the county, as he hated to put wooden steps in a state university. I started out on my pony and the first day I could find no stone which would suit. The second day I went east and found stone located south of Bennett in a ravine. I returned and told Mr. Silvers that I had found the stones that would make the steps. I got all the stones that had been long exposed to the sun and frost, dressed them, and there they are today. The three landings cost \$1,000.00.

## CHAPTER IX

### THE CAPITAL QUESTION IN NEBRASKA AND THE LOCATION OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AT LINCOLN

By Hon. C. H. Gere

NOTE: The following paper was read before the Nebraska State Historical Society by Mr. Gere on January 12, 1886.

To found a city is a human ambition older than history. The name of the engineer that set the metes and bounds of the first block and street in Jerusalem, or Athens, or Philadelphia, or Minneapolis, may be obliterated by the tide of time, but his work endures to this day, and the man who would tamper with his records or shift his landmarks, is a miscreant by the unanimous voice of the nations. But there are other ambitions almost as exigent. Other than dreams of immortality nerve many a pioneer to make the fight for his rival site for the seat of government of a state, or of a county, or for a railroad station. It is a dream of corner lots, of speculation, of bonds and mortgages, and deeds and commissions, and sudden wealth.

The transformation of a rough pebble to a diamond, of a fragment of dirty looking carbonate, trodden under foot by a hundred prospectors, to a button of shining metal, are realizations of the fairy tales of childhood, no more seductive to the bearded son of the child than the transformation of a square mile of wilderness, for the present dear enough at the cost of measuring it with compass and chain, by the breath of a law or an ordinance into a realm worth a prince's portion.

Upon the area of a new commonwealth, therefore, are waged incessant contests. The larger armies fight for capital sites, lesser powers war for county seats, and finally small squads here and there struggle over the location of a postoffice or a sawmill, and wounds are given and received, and graveyards filled with the politically slaughtered on the field or in the skirmish line, with as much recklessness as if the fate of administration and the control of empires depended upon the issue.

The first governor of the Territory of Nebraska was clothed with imperial powers by the organic act and the appointment of the President in the matter of setting up his official residence. Empowered to select the spot for the political center of his virgin domain, he wielded for a time, in the minds of his fellow citizens, the thunderbolt of Jove, and guided the courses of Appollo. But hardly had he arrived in October, 1854, at the old mission house at Bellevue, the site of the first white occupation of the territory, before he sickened, and in less than a week he was dead. His last hours were troubled by the delegations on

hand and forcing their way to his bedside, who came to urge the respective claims of Omaha, or Florence, or Plattsmouth, or Nebraska City for the seat of government. Bellevue considered herself safe, and the words of the dying Burt are often quoted by old citizens to this day as indicating that she would have won the crown, had the governor lived long enough to issue the necessary proclamation.

His secretary of state, who was his successor, Governor Cuming, unembarrassed by the past, pledged to no one, because no one had dreamed of his approaching greatness, had an embarrassment of riches in the shape of eligible sites offered him at once. Bellevue had perhaps the first claim, because she had the largest settlement and the greatest prestige. But all along the muddy banks of the Missouri, above and below her, were other cities, mostly on paper, though some had arrived at the dignity of a few scattering log cabins and dugouts, that wrestled for the supremacy. Most of their inhabitants lived over in Iowa, but the fact that they intended to elect, and did elect, a goodly portion of the coming Territorial Legislature, was a sufficient excuse for their pleading, and they made the executive ears warm with their arguments.

By what pathways the acting governor was led to pitch the imperial tent upon the plateaux of Omaha is not our province to inquire. If the statesmen of Kaneshville, later Council Bluffs, had a hand in the matter, that city soon had reason to mourn that the nest of the new commonwealth was lined with plumage from her own breast. From its very cradle, her infant despoiled her of her commercial prestige, and now scoffs at her maternal ancestor every time she glances across the four miles of dreary bottom that separates the waxing from the waning metropolis.

For the time being Omaha was the capital, and the first Legislature, with ample power to endorse or cancel the governor's location, was the next object of the executive attention, and it was his chiefest care to fortify and defend Omaha. A pretended enumeration of the inhabitants of the territory was made in November, 1854, upon which the governor proceeded to base the representation of the members of the territorial council and house of representatives. Four counties were constructed north of the Platte, named Burt, Douglas, Washington, and Dodge. Four were assigned to the south Platte: Cass, Pierce, Forney and Richardson. Douglas County extended to the Platte, embracing what is now Sarpy and Pierce, and Forney stood for what are now the counties of Otoe and Nemaha.

To the counties north of the Platte were apportioned seven councilmen and fourteen representatives, and to the southern counties were given six councilmen and twelve representatives. The enumeration made next year showed that the four northern counties contained 2,065 inhabitants, and the four counties south of the Platte contained 2,944. Here was the beginning of the trouble, the inequitable apportionment of the legislative representation, by which the section of the state known thenceforth as the "South Platte" country, was arbitrarily placed in the minority in each branch of the legislature, though greatly preponderating in population and wealth.

It is a matter of tradition that there was no definite eastern boundary of the territory during the first legislative election. The candidates were often residents of Iowa, who had claims on the other side of the great river, whose name as well as birth right had been stolen by a lesser affluent of the Mississippi to the eastward,

and were voted for in Pottawatomie, and Mills, and Fremont, as well as in Washington, Douglas and Cass. Sometimes the electors would form a camp for polling purposes on Nebraska soil, but where this was inconvenient it is rumored that they transacted the necessary business without leaving their Iowa homes, and merely dated their papers from the new commonwealth.

The governor's location was not disputed by that body, or the next. But when the third annual session of the Territorial Legislature opened in 1857 the trouble began immediately. The council still numbered seven from the north and six from the south, while the house had been increased to thirty-one members, sixteen from the north, and fifteen from the south. Douglas County absorbed twelve of the sixteen north Platte members. But her delegation was divided against itself. The memory of the lost chances that had stricken Bellevue with dry rot and had blighted the budding hopes of the Florentines, rankled in the bosoms of two representatives, one of whom hailed from the southern, and the other from the northern, extremity of the county. Youthful politicians wear out their hearts with the vain imagining that "to get even" is the chiefest end of statesmanship, and these united with the chafed warriors of the south in a raid on Omaha.

A bill was passed early in the session by both houses locating the seat of government "in the town of Douglas, in the County of Lancaster." It was a curious prophecy of the event ten years later. Stephen A. Douglas was then the rising star of the party that had been dominant for thirty-two out of the forty years last past. He was the idol of the democracy of the north, and was exhausting the resources of an acute and fertile intellect in plans for conciliating his southern brethren without losing his hold upon the affections of the north. He was certain to be a candidate for President, and if the party was united was certain of election. Three years later he and his cunningly devised statesmanship were swept away, his old townsman and hitherto almost unknown competitor, had supplanted him as the great popular leader, and ten years later gave the name to the capital of Nebraska.

Governor Izard, who had in the meantime relieved acting Governor Cuming of the burden of executive honors, promptly vetoed the bill. He explained in his message that it was a sudden movement of the enemies of Omaha, that the question had not been agitated by the people, that the alleged town of Douglas, in the County of Lancaster, was a mere figment of the legislative imagination, invented for the occasion and that its actual location in the county named was problematical, being as yet the football of factions within the faction that had passed the removal bill.

A year later, at a meeting of the fourth legislative assembly, the quarrel broke out afresh. Governor Izard had resigned, and Richardson, his successor, had not arrived, and Secretary Cuming was again in the chair. Nine days prior to the expiration of the session, on the 7th of January, a bill was introduced for the removal of the capital to Florence. The various tactical obstructions in the reach of the minority, engineered by such rising young statesmen as Dr. George L. Miller, president of the council, and A. J. Poppleton and J. Sterling Morton in the House, made it impossible to accomplish the object without strategy. The strategy resorted to was simple, but startling. On the morning of the 8th Mr. Donelan of Cass placidly rose in his place and moved "that we do now adjourn to meet at Florence tomorrow morning at the usual hour." Speaker -

Decker, who was one of the removers, put the question from the chair, as though it was the most natural thing in the world to meet at Florence tomorrow morning; and the motion prevailed, and the speaker and all but thirteen members of the house picked up their hats and left the chamber. The thirteen held the fort, elected Morton speaker pro tem, and gallantly effected an adjournment to meet again on the morrow at the old stand.

A similar scene was transpiring in the council. Doctor Miller, in the chair, refused to put the motion to adjourn to Florence, and it was put by Reeves of Otoe, declared carried, and eight councilmen stalked out into the cold world and prepared themselves for an eternal exodus to the village up the river. As to this emigration Douglas County was again divided against herself. Bowen and Allen, the one representing Florence, and the other standing for that cruel Juno, Bellevue, whose lofty mind still was revolving some plan of vengeance for the judgment of Paris and her injured beauty, were the leaders in the race, and behind the twain marched Bradford and Reeves of Otoe, Kirkpatrick of Cass, Safford of Dodge, and Furnas of Nemaha.

Governor Richardson arrived about this time, to find two capitals and two legislatures in full blast, and himself the unwilling arbitrator of the war. He promptly refused to recognize the Florence legislature, though it had the majority of both houses. The forty days' limit of the session broke up both bodies, and they each adjourned, leaving the business of the session undone, and the territory without a code of criminal law, and thus ended the first and last attempt recorded in history to attach the removal of a seat of government to a motion to adjourn until tomorrow morning.

The consequence was an extra session not long after, in 1859, at which much business was done, and in which Mr. Daily of Nemaha introduced a bill to abolish slavery in the territory, but during which the capital agitation slumbered and slept.

Then there was an interregnum. The Civil war quenched sectional bickerings, and the ambitions of leaders had objects more alluring than the founding of cities. But the war came to an end, and when the last Territorial Legislature of 1867 met, the old question of unfair apportionment came to the front again. The population of the south Platte section had increased until it was about double that of the counties north of the troublesome stream. But the superior tactics of the Douglas County leaders held down its representation to such an extent that it had but seven of the thirteen councilmen, and twenty-one of the thirty-seven representatives. Two threads of policy had intertwined to make the resistance to a reappointment, based upon actual population, sufficiently strong to overcome the justice supposed to be latent in the minds of statesmen.

The first was the fear entertained by Douglas County of the reopening of the capital agitation. The north Platte was now about a unit in favor of Omaha, as against a southern competitor. The second was a political consideration. A reapportionment meant a cutting down of the representation from Otoe as well as Douglas counties, both democratic strongholds. These counties, with the assistance of some lesser constituencies in the north of the Platte, which sent democratic delegations, were able to hold a very even balance in the Legislature against the republicans, though the latter had an unquestionable majority in the territory. Now that statehood was imminent, and there were two United States

senators to be elected by a State Legislature soon to be called, in case President Johnson should fail in his plan of defeating our admission under the enabling act of 1864, it was of immense importance to stave off a reapportionment.

Hence for capital reasons the republicans from the north Platte, and the democrats from the south Platte, worked in harmony with Douglas County members in preserving a basis of representation in its original injustice. The usual bill for a new apportionment had been introduced and passed the Senate, and came to the House, but the four votes from Otoe County being solid against it, it was sleeping the sleep of the just. In the speaker's chair was William F. Chapin of Cass, an expert parliamentarian, cool, determined, watchful, and untiring. The session was drawing to a close, and it was Saturday; the term expired at 12 o'clock, midnight, on the following Monday, and as usual the results of pretty much all the toil and perspiration of the forty days depended upon a ready and rapid dispatch of business during the remaining hours of the session.

There was something sinister in the air. It was whispered about that morning that the reapportionment bill had at last a majority in case Deweese of Richardson, who was absent on leave, should put in an appearance. A vote or two had been brought over from some of the northern districts, remote from Omaha, and anxious for republican domination. "Fun" was therefore expected. It came very soon after the roll was called in the opening of the session. The credentials of D. M. Rolfe of Otoe, who had not been in attendance during the session, but who was an anti-reapportionist, were called up, and it was moved that they be reported to a special committee. The ayes and nays were demanded. Pending roll call, it was moved that a call of the house be ordered. The call was ordered, and the doors closed. All the members answered to their names but Deweese of Richardson and Dorsey of Washington. Then the other side made a motion that further proceedings under the call be dispensed with. The ayes and nays were demanded, and there were seventeen ayes and sixteen nays. Speaker Chapin announced that he voted "no," and that being a tie, the motion was lost. An appeal was taken from the decision of the chair, and the vote resulted in another tie, and the appeal was declared lost. The rule is, that an affirmative proposition cannot be carried by a tie vote, but that all questions are decided in the negative. The usual form of putting the question by the speaker is, "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the house?" The negative would be that it should not so stand. But in that case a decision of the chair is reversed by less than a majority of the members voting, which is of course absurd. It was a deadlock. The house still refused to suspend proceedings under the call, and there was no recourse except by revolution. The result was a curious demonstration of the absurdity of manipulating a proposition by the use of misleading formulas so that the negative side of a question may appear to be in the affirmative.

The house passed, but "No Thoroughfare" was written on the faces of the reapportionists. They said that until they had some assurance that a reapportionment bill would be passed before the adjournment, they would prevent the transaction of any more business. Secretly they expected Deweese, who was rumored to be well enough to attend, and they waited for his appearance. But he did not come. The doorkeeper and the sergeant at arms had orders to let no man out,



and when noontide passed and the shadows lengthened, the members sent for refreshments and lunched at their desks. The night came. Some of the refreshments had been of a very partisan character, and there was blood on the horizon. Many became hilarious, and the lobby was exceedingly noisy. From hilarity to pugnacity is a very short step. Arms and munitions of war were smuggled in during the evening by the outside friends of both sides, and it was pretty confidently whispered about that the conclusion was to be tried by force of revolvers.

A little after 10 o'clock, P. M. Augustus F. Harvey of Otoe rose and moved that Speaker Chapin be deposed, and that Doctor Abbott of Washington be elected to fill the vacancy. He then put the question to a viva voce vote, and declared the motion adopted and Doctor Abbott elected speaker of the house. The stalwart form of Mr. Parmalee, the fighting man of the faction, immediately lifted itself from a desk nearby, and advanced, with Doctor Abbott, toward the chair, backed up by Harvey and a procession of his friends. As he placed his foot upon the first step of the dais, Speaker Chapin suddenly unlimbered a Colt's navy duly cocked, and warned him briefly to the effect that the Pythagorean proposition that two bodies could not occupy the same place at the same time was a rule of the house, and would be enforced by the combined armament, at the command of the proper presiding officer. Daniel paused upon the brink of fate, and hesitated upon his next step. To hesitate was to be lost. The speaker announced that in accordance with the rules of the house in cases of great disorder, he declared the house adjourned until 9 o'clock Monday morning, and sprang for the door. The Omaha lobby had promised faithfully when the crisis came to guard that door, and permit no rebel from the south Platte to escape. The first man to reach the door was said to be Kelley of Platte, who had joined the forces of the reapportionists, and it is a tradition that he leaped over the legislative stove to get there on time. The door was burst open, and before the volunteer guard could recover its equilibrium, the seceders had escaped and were out of the building, scattering to the four corners of the globe. But they had a rendezvous agreed upon in a secret place, and in half an hour they were safely entrenched and on guard against any sergeant-at-arms and posse that might be dispatched to return them to durance vile.

The Abbott house immediately organized, admitted Rolfe of Otoe to full membership, and proceeded to clear the docket of accumulated bills. Members of the lobby trooped in and voted the names of the absent, and everything proceeded in an unanimous way that must have astonished the walls of the chamber, if they had ears and memory. About dawn, however, the situation began to lose its roseate hue and an adjournment was had until Monday morning.

Before that time arrived, the hopelessness of the situation dawned upon both factions. They perceived that nothing whatever would come of the deadlock. Neither party had a quorum. Deweese of Richardson could not be brought in to cast his vote for reapportionment, and by common consent a peace was concluded, and Monday was spent in an amicable settlement of the arrearages of routine business.

But this episode created a sensation all over the state, and intensified partisan and sectional feeling. The adjournment took place on the 18th of February, and two days later, on the 20th, the State Legislature chosen at the same time, under the enabling act, met at a call of Governor Saunders, to accept or reject the

"fundamental condition" insisted on by Congress as a condition precedent to the admission of the state. The condition was that the word "white" in the constitution theretofore passed by the Legislature, and ratified by the people, should not be construed as debarring from the franchise any citizen of Nebraska, on account of color or race.

The State Legislature promptly ratified the "fundamental condition," and declared that white meant in their constitution any color whatever. Ten days later and the President's proclamation had been issued declaring Nebraska a state in the Union. The state officers were sworn in immediately after official notice had been given, and Governor Butler began at once to prepare his call for a special session of the Legislature to put the machinery of state in motion.

It was insisted upon by the leaders of the republican party in the south and west, that a reapportionment of members of the Legislature should be one of the objects of legislation enumerated in the call. This was bitterly opposed by many republicans in Douglas and other northern counties. It was also asked, this time by democrats, as well as republicans from Otoe, as well as from Cass and Richardson, and the southwestern counties, that a clause should be inserted making the location of the seat of government of the state one of the objects of the special session. The governor was averse to commencing his administration with a capital wrangle, but thought it would be good policy to make use of the suggestion, for the purpose of securing reapportionment, without a repetition of the bitter struggle of the winter. He therefore opened negotiations with the Douglas County delegation to the coming Legislature, and promised them that he would leave out the capital question, provided they would pledge themselves to sustain a reapportionment. They flatly refused. They claimed that the Legislature could not constitutionally reapportion the representation until after the next census, and as for capital removal, they were not brought up in the woods to be scared by an owl. The Otoe delegation, however, had changed its base. The senators had been elected and seated, and political consideration had lost their force with the democrats in that county. They wanted the capital removed south of the Platte, and they promised if the governor would "put that in" they would march right up and vote for apportionment.

His excellency had gone too far to retreat, and when his call was issued it embraced both capital removal and reapportionment, having consulted a distinguished constitution constructor, Judge Jamison of Chicago, on the latter point, and obtained an elaborate opinion that it was not only in the power of the Legislature, but its bounden duty, under the constitution, to reapportion the representation at its first session.

The Legislature met on the 18th of May, and the lines were quickly drawn for the emergency. Reapportionment was a fixed fact, and after a few days spent in reconnoitering, a solid majority in both houses seemed likely to agree upon a scheme for capital location. Mr. Harvey who had led the assault upon reapportionment at the late session of the Territorial Legislature, was an active leader of his late antagonists for relocation. Party affiliations were ruptured all along the line, and the new lines were formed on a sectional basis. The bill was prepared with deliberation, much caucusing being required before it would satisfy the various elements in the movement, and it was introduced into both houses on the 4th of June. It was entitled "An act to provide for the location of the seat



South Tenth Street between N and M



Eleventh Street, looking north from O



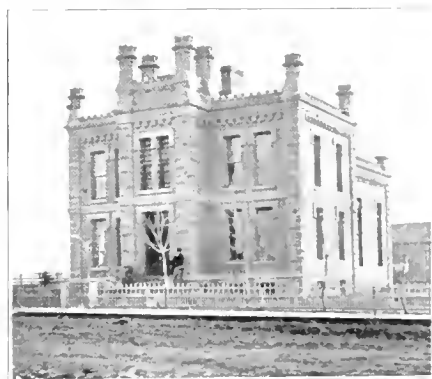
North side of O Street between Ninth and Eleventh



South side of O Street between Eleventh and Twelfth



By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln  
State University



County Jail

SCENES IN LINCOLN IN 1875



of government of the State of Nebraska and for the erection of public buildings thereat." It named the governor, David Butler, the secretary of state, Thomas P. Kennard, and the auditor, John Gillespie, commissioners, who should select, on or before July 15th, a date changed by a supplementary bill to September 1, 1867, from lands belonging to the state lying within the County of Seward, the south half of the counties of Saunders and Butler, and that portion of Lancaster County lying north of the south line of township nine, a suitable site of not less than 640 acres lying in one body, for a town, to have the same surveyed, and named "Lincoln," and declared the same the permanent seat of government of the state.

The bill directed the commissioners, after the site had been surveyed, to offer the lots in each alternate block for sale to the highest bidder after thirty days' advertisement, having appraised the same, but that no lots should be sold for less than the appraised value. The first sale should be held for five successive days at Lincoln on the site, after which sale should be opened for the same duration, first at Nebraska City and next at Omaha. If a sufficient number of lots should not by this time be disposed of to defray the expenses of the selection and survey and to erect a building as described in the bill, further sales might be advertised and held in Plattsmouth and Brownville. All moneys derived from these sales, which should be for cash, should be deposited in the state treasury and there held by the treasurer as a state building fund. From the proceeds of these sales the commissioners should proceed to advertise for plans and contracts and cause to be erected a building suitable for executive offices and the accommodation of the two houses of the Legislature, that might be a part of a larger building to be completed in the future, the cost of which wing or part of a building should not exceed fifty thousand dollars. The bill passed the Senate on the 10th day of June. Those voting for it were Jesse T. Davis of Washington, James E. Doom and Lawson Sheldon of Cass, Oscar Holden of Johnson, Thomas J. Majors of Nemaha, William A. Presson of Richardson, and Mills S. Reeves and W. W. Wardell of Otoe. The noes were Harlan Baird of Dakota, Isaac S. Hascall and J. N. H. Patrick of Douglas, E. H. Rogers of Dodge, and Frank K. Freeman of Lincoln.

The House passed the bill two days later, under suspension of the rules, forwarding it to its third reading. As in the Senate, so in the House, the opponents of the bill resorted to strategy for stampeding the friends of the measure, and offered numerous amendments to locate the capital or the university or the agricultural college at Nebraska City, or in the boundaries of Cass or Nemaha counties. But all amendments were steadily voted down by a solid phalanx. The gentlemen in the House voting "aye" on its final passage were David M. Anderson, John B. Bennett, William H. Hicklin, Aug. F. Harvey and George W. Sroat of Otoe, J. R. Butler of Pawnee, John Cadman of Lancaster, E. L. Clark of Seward, W. F. Chapin, D. Cole, A. B. Fuller and Isaac Wiles of Cass, George Crowe, William Dailey, Louis Waldter and C. F. Haywood of Nemaha, J. M. Deweese, Gustavus Duerfeldt, T. J. Collins and J. T. Hoile of Richardson, Henry Morton of Dixon, Dean C. Slade and John A. Unthank of Washington, Oliver Townsend of Gage and George P. Tucker of Johnson—twenty-five.

The "noes" were O. W. Baltzley of Dakota, Henry Beebe of Dodge, George N. Crawford and A. W. Trumble of Sarpy, George W. Frost, Joel T. Griffin,

Martin Dunham, J. M. Woolworth and Dan S. Parmalee of Douglas, and John A. Wallichs of Platte—ten.

It will be observed that several votes were cast for the bill from the northern counties. Tied up with the capital removal was a bill engineered by the secretary of state, Mr. Kennard, then a resident of Washington County, and Senator Davis, appropriating seventy-five sections of state internal improvement lands for the building of a railroad, now a part of the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley Line running from the river near Blair to Fremont. It was then called the "North Nebraska Air Line." Another measure was also attached to these two to make the syndicate solid in Nemaha, the only county that had sent up a remonstrance against the removal of the capital. It was a bill accepting for the state the tender of the Methodist Episcopal Seminary at Peru for a state normal school, and donating twenty sections of state lands for the endowment of the same. The three bills and the reapportionment bill received virtually the same support in both houses and all passed about the same time.

The plans of the capital removers so far had not met with the determined resistance that had been anticipated, although the parliamentarians from Douglas and other counties had exhausted the resources of ordinary tactics at the command of the minority. The fact was that for several months Omaha had been making such a rapid commercial growth, owing to the extension of the Union Pacific Railroad to the frontier and the incoming of the Chicago & Northwestern Road from Central Iowa to Council Bluffs, that her business men had their hands full. Their ambition had expanded. The capital question was dwarfed by the prospect of becoming in the near future a great commercial metropolis. Real estate was going up like a rocket. Capitalists were crowding in every day, and the faces of the newcomers seen on the streets greatly outnumbered the familiar physiognomies of the old settlers of '54 and '60. What had Omaha to fear even if the Utopian scheme of founding "a city fifty miles from anywhere," as they called it, should succeed? It was too far away from the Union Pacific and the Missouri to be of any importance. The lobby was therefore conspicuous for its absence. There was more money to be made in a day in trading lots and securing railroad contracts than in a month of wrestling with the fads of rural legislators. Just at that time, it is due to historical truthfulness to say that Omaha cared little for the questions that were taking up the attention of the lawmakers at the state house.

The departure of the capital commission to hunt a site for Lincoln was a subject of merriment to the newspapers of the old capital. Not until after much traveling to and fro, looking at the sites through the length and breadth of the territory defined by the act, the commissioners on the 29th of July having issued their order locating Lincoln, in Lancaster County, on and about the site of Lancaster, its county seat, and commenced to survey the same into blocks, lots, reservations, streets and alleys, did the press of Omaha wake to the realities of the situation.

Then there was music in the air. The act provided that within ten days after its passage the commissioners should qualify and give bonds to be approved by a judge of the Supreme Court. The bonds were to be filed with the state treasurer. Now it had been ascertained that though the commissioners had sent in their bonds to the chief justice, and he had approved them in the stipulated time,

they had not been filed with the treasurer inside of the ten days. It was announced, therefore, that they had no authority to do anything under the law, and that if they sold what purported to be lots in the Townsite of Lincoln, the treasurer, Hon. Augustus Kountze of Omaha, would receive the money and hold it for future disposition, but he would not pay out any of it as a capitol building fund. At any rate injunction would be applied for to prevent him. The announcement was calculated to discourage those intending to become purchasers of Lincoln lots. It did have a very depressing effect. The commissioners said that to be forewarned was to be forearmed, and as they had determined to avoid litigation and the possible tying up of the money until the meeting of the next Legislature, they should keep it in their own hands and pay it out without the intervention of the treasurer. This promise was faithfully kept. The next Legislature formally legalized this and other departures from the strict letter of the law made by them in the pursuit of success, but for the time being it was a very serious embarrassment.

The sale of lots opened on the new site in October. The commissioners were on the spot with quite a number of possible purchasers. The auctioneer was a handsome man and had a good voice. There was a band of music in attendance, and it played as well as any band ought to play so far away from civilization. But not a bid could be coaxed from a single soul. The commissioners had decided, upon consideration, that they would not personally invest. It was decided proper to observe the proprieties very strictly, and to avoid future scandals they would keep out. But this was a matter of suspicion to the crowd present. If the commissioners had not enough confidence in the new city to purchase a residence or business lot, why should they venture any investment? Night came on and not a lot had been sold.

A council of war was summoned in the evening in the Donovan House and the commissioners and certain gentlemen from Nebraska City were in attendance. The Nebraska City capitalists said that the commissioners ought to bid on lots, and the commissioners said that the Nebraska City men who were so much responsible for the scheme ought to bid. Finally it was conceded that both ought to bid. The Nebraska City men formed a syndicate that agreed to bid the appraised value on every lot as it was offered and as much more in case of competition as they thought safe, until they had taken \$10,000 worth of lots. But there was a proviso that in case the sales did not amount in five days to \$25,000, including the syndicate's \$10,000, the whole business should be declared "off," the enterprise abandoned, and no money be paid in. The commissioners also rescinded their compact against becoming personal bidders, for they saw that matters were in a very precarious condition and they had to imbue the people present with confidence in Lincoln. The next day business began in earnest. When the five days had passed \$44,000 had been realized, and the prospects were considered certain for the erection of a capitol building. By the time the sales at Nebraska City and Omaha had been finished \$53,000 had been taken in, and no supplementary sales at Plattsmouth and Brownville were held, though comparatively few lots had been disposed of, to realize the necessary amount.

Lancaster, the site of which had been swallowed up by Lincoln after the proprietors had deeded it to the state in consideration of the location of the capital, was a hamlet of five dwellings, a part of one being used as a store, and the stone

walls of a building commenced as a seminary by the Methodist Church, but which had partly burned before completion and had been temporarily abandoned. The residents on the original plat of Lincoln were Capt. W. T. Donovan, whose house stood on the corner of Ninth and Q; Jacob Dawson, whose log dwelling was on the south side of O, between Seventh and Eighth, and who had commenced the foundations of a residence on the corner of Tenth and O; Milton Langdon, who lived in a small stone house east of Dawson's, between O and P; Luke Lavender, whose log cabin stood in Fourteenth, just south of O; and John McKesson, who was constructing a frame cottage two or three blocks north of the university. (Note: Lavender's cabin location is now understood to have been on Fifteenth and O, and was the first house on the site of Lincoln.) Scattered about just outside the city limits as then established, on premises that since then have been brought in as additions, were the residences of Rev. J. M. Young, William Guy, Philip Humerick, E. T. Hudson, E. Warnes and John Giles. Between the date of the location and the first sale of lots a number of buildings were erected on the site, the owners taking their chances at the sales of securing their titles by purchase. There were two frame stores, one occupied by Pflug Brothers, and another by Rich & Company, a law office by S. B. Galey, a shoe shop by Robert and John Monteith, a stone building, afterwards rented to the Commonwealth, the predecessor of the State Journal, by Jacob Drum, a hotel called the Pioneer House by Colonel Donovan. These buildings were located on or in the vicinity of the public square and fixed the business center of Lincoln.

As soon as the sale was finished the commissioners proceeded to advertise for plans for a capitol building. John Morris was the successful architect and Joseph Ward secured the contract for its construction on his bid of \$49,000.

The excavation was commenced in November and by the 1st of December of the following year, 1868, was sufficiently completed for occupancy, and the governor issued his proclamation transferring the seat of government to Lincoln and for the removal of the state offices and archives to the new building. The first capitol was constructed of sandstone, quarried at various points within Lancaster County, with a facing of magnesian limestone from a quarry near Beatrice. This stone was hauled the forty miles over roads and bridges in part constructed by the contractor.

The considerations that led the commissioners to select Lincoln in preference to the sites offered at Ashland, Milford, Camden and other points were, first, the fact that in the several preliminary surveys made from various points on the Missouri River from Plattsmouth down to Falls City, all had this place as a common point; it was the natural railroad center, to all appearances, for the large and irregular parallelogram running west from the Missouri, between the Platte on the north, and the Kansas or Kaw on the south, to the plains of Eastern Colorado. The eastern portion of this parallelogram was even then alleged by enthusiastic Nebraskans to be the garden spot of the continent. It has produced the largest average of corn to the acre of any equal and continuous area reported by our census gatherers. At that time, though its capacity for corn was not fully appreciated, it was regarded as a wonderful wheat growing section. It has lost its prestige in spring wheat, but it holds its own in corn, oats, grass, and fruit, and is all that the fancy of the fathers of '67 painted it.

The second consideration was the proximity of the great salt basin, in which





Lavender Cabin, first house on the site  
of Lincoln



Looking west from old postoffice, 1881



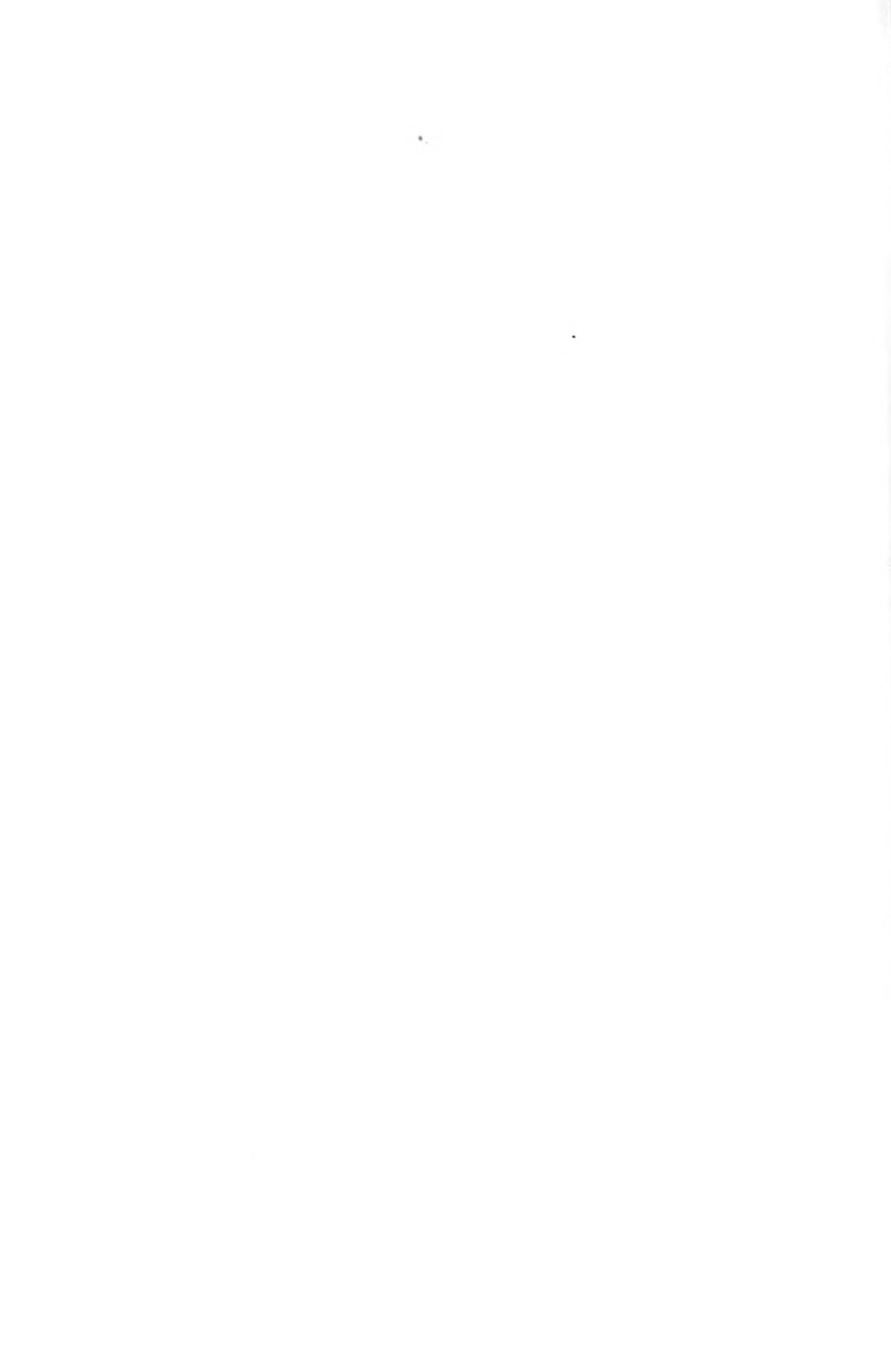
Looking east on O from southwest corner  
of Eleventh and O streets, about 1875



Street scene, probably looking east from  
Tenth and O, about 1875

#### EARLY SCENES IN LINCOLN

[From Clement's Collection of Early Nebraska Photographs. Property of and used by  
permission of Nebraska History Seminar, State University]



all the salt springs of the state that gave promise of future importance were located. It was generally believed that the salt manufacture alone would build a stirring city. The third reason was that it was about as far from the Missouri River as it was advisable to go. To take it twenty miles farther west would be to remove it from any immediate expectation of rail communication, and so increase the expense of building that it would be impossible to dispose of the lots or to erect a capitol with the proceeds within the two years, and hence the enterprise would fail. It was furthermore generally believed that the site selected was about midway between the western limit of arable land, and that it would always be the center of population.

The Legislature met in January, 1869, in the new capitol, approved the acts of the commissioners without very much criticism, provided for the erection of a state university and agricultural college on the site reserved, and for an insane hospital on state lands secured by the commission on Yankee Hill, and ordered the sale of the remaining lots and blocks belonging to the state to furnish the funds for such buildings in connection with certain lands available for the purpose. They also made appropriations amounting to about sixteen thousand dollars for completing the capitol building with a dome, and for defraying the expense of "extras" ordered by the commissioners on the state house to make it comfortable and habitable. Several thousand dollars were used in grading the grounds, fencing the same, planting them with trees, and erecting outbuildings. The total cost of the building, fittings and grounds, is finally stated at \$83,000.

Under the various acts and appropriations of that Legislature the sale of lots continued at intervals during '69 and '70. Three hundred and sixteen thousand dollars was the sum realized from these sales, making a sum total of about three hundred and seventy thousand dollars that the original site of Lincoln brought into the state. It was not a bad investment for young Nebraska, but its success as a real estate speculation was almost wholly due to the energy and pluck of the commissioners, that led them from time to time to overleap technical obstacles and defects in the law, and take desperate political and financial chances as the alternative of the ignominious failure of the schemes. They were applauded and honored in '69 and '70, but a reaction set in in '71 and they met a Nemesis that for a time threatened them not only with disgrace but absolute destruction.

But for three years these men played the star parts on the political stage in the infant state, and they have left a monument to the efficiency of their work, to their business sagacity, and to their political courage, that bids fair to be as enduring as history.

In its first year Lincoln grew to be a village of about 800 inhabitants. In 1870 the census revealed a population of 2,400. In 1875 it was the second city in the state and numbered 7,300. In 1880 it had 13,000 people and in 1885 it had reached and passed 20,000.

When it was surveyed the nearest railroad connecting with the eastern markets was at Omaha and St. Joseph, Mo. In 1880 it had eight diverging lines to all points of the compass, and in 1890 it bids fair to have a round dozen spokes to its commercial wheel. In this remarkable progress, she is but an exemplar of her state and her people. A century of improvement in twenty years is the rule in Nebraska and has been from the day she took her place in the galaxy of the Union.

## CHAPTER X

### THE BEGINNING OF LINCOLN

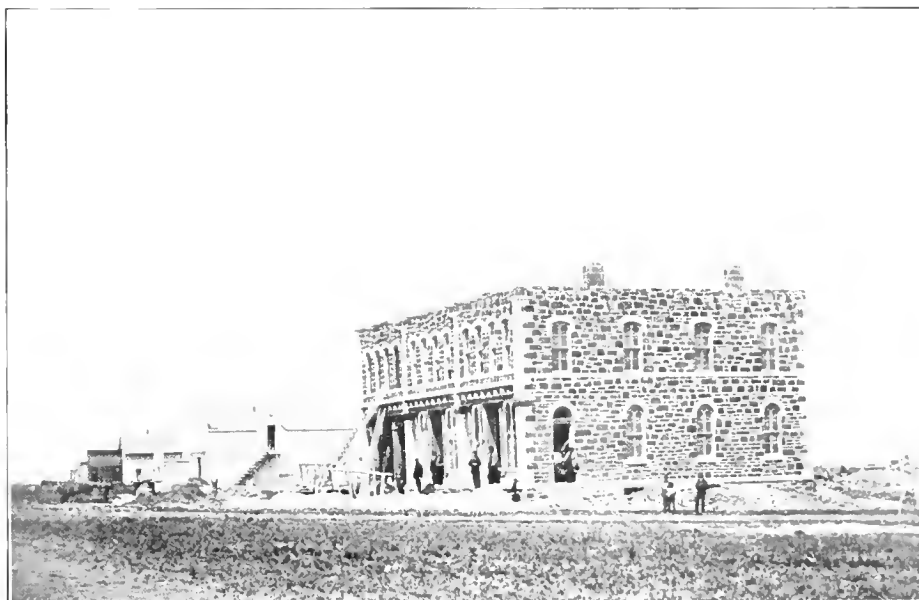
Notwithstanding the great honor that had been accorded Lancaster County in placing the capital of the State of Nebraska within her borders, the struggle to keep the capital here and to create the new City of Lincoln was a contest of discouragement, of inward machinations and hopeless outlook. The story of the first lot sales and attendant circumstances is related elsewhere. The first half year, 1867, brought little improvement beyond a few squatters, but in the next year, 1868, the Town of Lincoln acquired new courage and by the end of the year had fully five hundred inhabitants. Many of these settlers owned lots in the town which they had bought for prices from twenty to fifty dollars, some of them now being worth as much as thirty thousand dollars. The settled portion of the town was bounded by Eighth, Twelfth, R and N streets.

When the capital was located here there were just two stores on the site of the town, one being owned by the Pflug Brothers and the other by Max Rich & Company; these two places stood on opposite sides of the square. As stated before, the very first house to be constructed on the site of Lincoln was the log cabin of Luke Lavender, located very near the site of the Lincoln Public Library. Jacob Dawson abandoned his log cabin near O and Eighth streets, and erected a log and stone house back some distance from the corner of O and Tenth, southwest. The first business block erected in Lincoln was the Sweet Block, on the northeast corner of Tenth and O streets. This was constructed early in 1868 by Darwin Peckham and is still standing, although not to be recognized in its present form. The structure was in fact three buildings erected together by James Sweet, the largest purchaser of the first Lincoln lots, A. C. Rudolph and Pflug Brothers. Mr. Sweet and N. C. Brock opened the first bank in Lincoln in the southwest corner room, first floor, in June, 1868. This bank continued until 1871, when it was reorganized as the State Bank of Nebraska by Samuel G. Owen, James Sweet and N. C. Brock. Near the same time that the bank opened for business, A. C. Rudolph opened a grocery store in the next room to the north and Pflug Brothers a stock of merchandise in the third room from the corner. The upper part of the building was used for offices, some of them, for many years, being used for county purposes. Mr. Sweet also kept the papers of the state treasury there when he held that office in 1869.

The first clothing house in the town was opened in 1868 by Bain Brothers on the southeast corner of Tenth and O streets. Prior to this they had conducted a real estate business in a front room on Tenth Street, just south of their clothing house. D. B. Cropsey also conducted a real estate office on the southwest corner of Tenth and O in company with his father, A. J. Cropsey. In 1868 Bohanan



TENTH STREET, LINCOLN, BETWEEN O AND N, 1875



By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

SWEET BLOCK, CORNER OF TENTH AND O, 1868  
First block in Lincoln, containing Sweet and Brock's Bank



Brothers opened up a meat market west of the Cropsey office. Squire Blazier also opened up a meat market near the present site of the federal building, Government Square then being called Market Square. Early pictures of the square show that the area was a very popular place as a meeting ground for wagons, horses, cattle, emigrant trains and such. Quite an amount of business, particularly land business, was transacted in the open ground of this square. On O Street, third door west from Tenth, immediately across from the present city hall, then the postoffice, David May opened a small stock of clothing for sale in 1868. The statement has been made, and believed, that David May's store was on Tenth Street, but the early photographs printed herein will show that it is untrue. South of the alley on Tenth R. R. Tingley opened a small drug store and a short distance south C. F. Damrow started a tailoring shop. S. B. Pound had a small stock of groceries at what is now 915 O Street, where he went into partnership with Max Rich during a few months of 1867-68. The next year he sold his interest in the establishment to Rich & Oppenheimer. Mr. Pound afterward entered the law and became noted for his success in this profession.

In the block bounded by O, N, Eighth and Ninth streets there was one building, Dunbar's livery stable, on the northeast corner. A photograph of this accompanies this chapter. In the block bounded by O, P, Eighth and Ninth there were two or three buildings. On the southeast corner Dr. H. D. Gilbert, formerly of Nebraska City, had established a mercantile house. His small home stood just north of the store. Humphrey Brothers succeeded Doctor Gilbert shortly afterwards. Milton Langdon lived in the rear of the southwest corner of Eighth and Q streets. His milk house, a little to the south, served for a time as the first jail in the city and county. In the block bounded by P, Q, Eighth and Ninth H. S. Jennings built a stone residence near the northeast corner. In the block bounded by P, Q, Ninth and Tenth there were several buildings, large and small. On the northwest corner was the Pioneer House, the first hotel in Lincoln, managed by L. A. Scoggin. John Cadman built up the walls of the burned seminary, opened it as a hotel and called it the Cadman House. After running it for a few months he sold it to Nathan Atwood, who constructed a brick front to it and named it the Atwood House. The building was burned in 1879. In this same block, on the northeast corner, was the Methodist Church. The lots for this were donated by Governor Butler. On P Street, Seth B. Gale, then county clerk, constructed a small stone office. Next to him on the west was a small building occupied by S. B. Pound and Seth Robinson, lawyers. At 922 P Street was the Monteith shoe shop. In the block enclosed by Q, R, Eleventh and Twelfth, north of the southwest corner, was the stone schoolhouse, the first in Lincoln. Between O, P, Tenth and Eleventh streets the first saloon in Lincoln was started by Ans and George Williams. Their building was the first completed on the east side of the square. It stood north of the center of the block and the upper floor was used for various offices. In the front room Thomas H. Hyde conducted a land office, a popular rendezvous for the politicians of the day. The saloon on the lower floor became a notorious resort of early Lincoln. D. A. Sherwood had a real estate office near the southeast corner of the block, also a small stock of groceries. Behind these shops, to the north and west, was located the first lumber yard in the city, owned by the firm of Monell & Larkley. Shortly Valentine Brothers started a lumber yard on Eleventh, between M and N. During 1868-69

both of these lumber concerns employed wagons and teams to transport lumber from the Missouri River, from a point six miles above Nebraska City. A. J. Cropsey built a residence near where the south end of the Capital Hotel stands.

W. W. Carder's newspaper, the Commonwealth, was located near the middle of the east side of the block enclosed by N. O, Tenth and Eleventh streets. On the southwest corner of the block William Shirley had a boarding house and next to it, on the north, was Cox's grocery and boarding house. Near the present location of the Harley Drug Store William Rowe owned a harness shop, the first in Lincoln. About three lots east on O Street was the real estate office of J. P. Lantz. Mr. Lantz published a real estate monthly, the Nebraska Intelligencer, for seven years. Two lots farther east was the residence of William Guy. On the southeast corner of Twelfth and O streets, where Rector's drug store is located, Charles May conducted a bakery. North of this, in the vicinity of the old Burr Block, stood William Allen's residence. Leighton & Brown had a small drug store on the southeast corner of O and Eleventh. Seth H. Robinson lived on the northwest corner of Twelfth and P streets.

The United States Land Office was moved from Nebraska City to Lincoln in 1868 and was in charge of Stewart McConiga.

On the petition of a majority of the inhabitants of the city the county commissioners ordered on April 7, 1868, that the Town of Lincoln be declared a body corporate. L. A. Scoggin, B. F. Cozad, Doctor Potter, W. W. Carder and A. L. Palmer were appointed trustees of the new corporation. An election was held May 18, 1868, when H. S. Jennings, S. B. Linderman, H. D. Gilbert, J. J. Van Dyke and D. W. Tingley were elected trustees. The town organization of 1868 was not maintained and a petition for a new organization, signed by 169 citizens, was presented to the board of county commissioners. The town was then reincorporated on April 7, 1869, and made to include section 26, the west half of section 25, the southwest quarter of section 24, and the south half of section 23, all in town 10 north, range 6 east. H. S. Jennings, S. B. Linderman, H. D. Gilbert, J. L. McConnell and D. W. Tingley were selected as trustees and Seth Robinson, A. J. Cropsey and T. N. Townley were appointed judges of election. The first election under the new organization was held May 3, 1869. The following men were elected trustees of Lincoln: H. D. Gilbert, C. H. Gere, William Rowe, Philetus Peck and J. L. McConnell. The board organized with H. D. Gilbert, chairman; J. R. DeLand, clerk; and N. C. Brock, treasurer.

In all, the year 1869 was a very good one for the new City of Lincoln. Lots had sold well and had commanded good prices, or what were considered good prices at that time. The Legislature met that year and ratified the work of the commissioners in selecting Lincoln as the state capital. This gave confidence to the people and the future of the town, its development and progress were assured. Mr. C. H. Gere wrote the following in regard to the first Legislature:

"The members of the first Legislature brought their cots, blankets and pillows with them in their overland journeys in wagons (hired) or the jerkies of the stage line, and lodged, some in newly erected store buildings, some in the upper rooms of the state house, while the wealthier lawmakers boldly registered at the Atwood hostelry, and paid their bills for extras, including 'noise and confusion' during the senatorial mill between Tipton, Butler and Marquett; and how they all agreed, after some preliminary hair-pulling, that the new capitol was a success, and or-





By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

#### LINCOLN'S FIRST POSTOFFICE

John Dunbar's livery at left and Judge Pound's store and postoffice at right



dered a dome erected thereon reaching the upper atmosphere, and confirmed the deeds, regular and irregular, of the commission, and gave us a cemetery in which to bury our dead; how they passed a bill for the organization of the state university, and ordered a further sale of lots and lands to build the dome and construct a university building, a wing of an insane hospital, and a workshop for the penitentiary and how they were all built in part or in whole of the old red sandstone of the vicinity, and came to grief soon after, may not be an interesting story today, but it was full of eloquence, fire and significance for those who were on the ground at the time.

"From the adjournment of that Legislature, the body that took in hand the building up of the new commonwealth and the laying of the foundation of its great institutions, so ably aided by the executive officers of our first state administration to this time, every six working days of every week of the twenty years (written in 1889) has seen completed an average of ten buildings on the site of the city consecrated to the memory of the great emancipator and war President.

"No body of men in forty years accomplished more. Every law passed by that memorable Legislature of '69 weighed a ton. Its work was original and creative, and it did it well. Its moving spirit was the governor, David Butler. Some of its members came down to Lincoln from hostile localities, and had it in their hearts to destroy him and his works; but before the session was a fortnight old, his genial though homely ways, his kindness of heart, his sturdy common sense, the originality of his genius, and the boldness of his conceptions, captured them, and when the forty days were done, no man in the two houses avowed himself the enemy of David Butler."

In a pamphlet written by J. H. Ames, attorney, in 1870, the following is stated:

"Only about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years have elapsed since the commissioners, by official proclamation, called the Town of Lincoln into existence. The Village of Lancaster, which was included within its site, contained in all less than a half dozen buildings of every description. At the present time that number has been increased to over three hundred and fifty, and the number of inhabitants in the town will not fall short of twenty-five hundred souls. The appreciation of real property, which was so low at the time of the first public sales that the commissioners nearly despaired of being able to make sufficient sales of lots to defray the expenses of building the state house, has risen to such an extent that means have been obtained from that source sufficient not only for the building of the state house, but also for building the state university and agricultural college and the state lunatic asylum, and about six hundred lots belonging to the state yet remain to be sold.

"The cash valuation of the real property of the town belonging to private individuals, as ascertained from the assessment rolls, is \$456,956. Nine of the church societies for which reservations of town lots were made, as has been stated, have erected neat and commodious houses of worship and edifices will be erected by the remaining societies early in the autumn. There are three schools in town in which the ordinary branches of common school education are taught by an able corps of teachers. \* \* \*

"In Lancaster County there are no longer any Government lands subject to homestead or pre-emption, although there are hundreds of thousands of acres

of such lands in the state; many of them as fine as any lands in the state; many of them as fine as any lands in the world are situated on the Blue River, only about twenty-five miles from the capital. Excellent farm lands, situated within a radius of ten or twelve miles of the capital, may be purchased both from railroad corporations and individuals at prices ranging from five dollars an acre upwards, according to location and the nature and extent of improvements."

In 1871 the City of Lincoln entered upon a period of gloom and discouragement which lasted for several years. The Legislature of that year committed many acts of indiscretion which led many people to believe that the future of Lincoln was doomed. Perhaps the greatest folly of this body of lawmakers was the impeachment of Governor Butler. So great was the depression that the value of property in the city fell at an alarming rate. To add to the troubles, the grasshoppers fell upon the county in 1873 in billions and destroyed property everywhere, throwing farmers into financial ruin and causing many to leave the county. The coming of the year 1877 heralded a return to the normal order of things. The greatest factor in this renewal of hope was the disappearance of the grasshoppers. By 1880 the City of Lincoln had a population of 14,000 people.

Although there have been years when Lincoln apparently was at a standstill, with little or no progress, nor growth, the general development of the city has been steady. Lincoln has never been a boom town, but has maintained a position of strength and respectability in the Middle West. Financial panics and crop failures have at times threatened the prosperity of the community, but these attacks have been weathered without exception.

## CHAPTER XI

### THE BEGINNING OF LINCOLN AND LANCASTER COUNTY

By W. W. Cox

In the last days of June, 1861, I chanced to meet William T. Donovan on the streets of Nebraska City and upon learning that he lived on Salt Creek and in the neighborhood of the wonderful salt basins, I speedily arranged to accompany him, that I might see for myself the country and the basins of which we had heard so much. If I remember correctly, after passing the old Majors farm four miles out, we passed over an unbroken wilderness, save Wilson's Ranch at Wilson's Creek, until we reached McKee's Ranch on the Nemaha, where widow McKee and her sons lived. James Her also lived near the same point. This was twenty miles out and near the present Town of Syracuse. The next improvement was that of John Roberts on the Nemaha, near the present site of Palmyra, and five miles farther to the west lived Mr. Meecham, a weak-kneed Mormon who had fallen out by the way. These were all of the people we saw on that trip until we reached Salt Creek. After enjoying the hospitalities of our friends here for the night a somewhat novel mode of conveyance was improvised for our trip to the basin. A tongue was fastened to the hind axle of a wagon and a pair of springs were made of short ash sticks and a board was laid across the ends of the sticks to serve as a seat. This completed our carriage and Buck and Bright served for motive power. On the 2d of July, 1861, we followed a dim track down to Lincoln—no, to Lancaster—no, but down Salt Creek (we hardly ever go up Salt Creek), to the mouth of Oak Creek, where we forded the stream. There was at the time a magnificent grove of honey locust timber on the west side of Salt Creek, and just south of Oak Creek, and a little to the south of the foot of O Street in the large bend of the creek, there were perhaps a hundred majestic elms and cottonwoods, with here and there a hackberry and honey locust. Those lovely groves would now, if they could have remained in their natural grandeur and beauty as we saw them, be of priceless value to the city for a park. Joseph, the elder son of Mr. Donovan, was our teamster and guide. The big flies which infested the low bottoms were a great help as persuaders to our oxen; and at times our ride was exciting in the extreme, as the oxen would dart first to the right, then to the left, to get the benefit of a brush to rid themselves of the flies.

It brings peculiar thoughts to mind as I look around us now and consider the changes that have been wrought in twenty-six years (this was written in 1888). One dim track only crossed the site of the future city from east to west, that had been made by hunters and salt pilgrims, and the one already men-

tioned, running up and down the creek. As I viewed the land upon which now stands this great city I had the exciting pleasure of seeing for the first time a large drove of the beautiful antelope cantering across the prairie just above where the Government Square is located. We forded Salt Creek just by the junction of Oak Creek and what a struggle we had in making our way through the tall sunflowers between the ford and basin. There was something enchanting about the scene that met my eyes. The fresh breeze sweeping over the salt basins reminded me of the morning breezes of the ocean beach. The basin was as smooth as glass and resembled a slab of highly polished clouded marble. The wrecks of some old salt furnaces and two deserted cabins were the only signs of civilization; all was wild and solitary; but my soul was filled with rapturous delight. The geese, brant and pelicans had undisputed sway, and the air was filled with their shrill notes.

The nearest human habitation to either the basins or the present city was that of Mr. Donovan on the Caldwell place on Salt Creek, about five miles up that stream, or south of the ford; Joel Mason lived a mile farther up. Richard Wallingford lived at his present home. A. J. Wallingford also lived just across the creek. John Cadman lived just across the county line, as the counties were first constituted, in old Clay County, and where the Village of Saltillo now stands. Doctor Maxwell lived in that neighborhood, also Festus Reed, and where Roca now stands J. L. Davidson and the Prey family had located. William Shirley on Stevens Creek was the nearest settler to the eastward. Charles Retslef and John Wedencamp, also Judge J. D. Maine, held the fort a little farther up the creek, and Aaron Wood was located near the head of Stevens Creek. John and Louis Loder lived down Salt Creek near Waverly, also Michael Shea and James Moran. To the westward there was nothing but a complete wilderness.

In company with Darwin Peckham I commenced making salt on the 20th of August, 1861. We pre-empted one of the log cabins and bached during the fall. Salt was very scarce in war times and was high in price; and as a necessity great numbers of people came to scrape salt. They came from the whole of the settled portions of the territory, from Kansas, Missouri, and as far east as Central Iowa. At the time of the second visit, we found the roads well broken by pilgrims in search of salt. Going for salt in those days was like going fishing. It was all in luck. If the weather was perfectly dry, they could get plenty of it, for it could be scraped up by the wagon load; but three minutes of rain would end the game. I have seen a drove of men who came a full hundred miles and arrived just in time to see a little rain clear all the salt of the basin in a moment. We found a goodly number there when we arrived and they were holding the empty sack, for it had just rained and the basin was as black as ink. I remember Milton Langdon as one of the disconsolate pilgrims. The next morning all except our party pulled out and we "were monarchs of all we surveyed." We immediately built a small furnace, made a sheet iron salt pan, and began boiling salt; and by the time the next drove of pilgrims came we had salt to trade or sell them. Many farmers would bring their sorghum pans to make their own salt and when they would get enough, or get tired, we would trade salt for their pans and all their spare provisions. When the weather was dry, many would scrape up more than they could haul home and we would trade for their scrapings

at twenty-five cents per hundred. In dry times we would accumulate a mountain of scraped salt, and as soon as the first rain came our scrapings would be worth from fifty cents to one dollar per hundred. Pilgrims would grab for it. They brought up all manner of provisions to trade for it; meat, flour, chickens, butter, fruit, potatoes, eggs, and others were willing to go to the groves, cut and haul wood with which to trade for the salt. Others would haul up a large pile of wood and then rent our furnaces for the night, and thus get a supply. So we had salt to sell, scrapings to sell, furnaces to rent, and generally provisions to sell. One man, I remember, brought a fine suit of clothes and traded them to us for salt. A party brought us two four-horse wagon loads, 5,000 pounds, of flour from Winterset, Iowa, and we made him an even exchange of 5,000 pounds of salt. It was a lively time, for hundreds were going and coming continually during the fall.

I remember several distinguished visitors of that fall, among whom were the Hon. O. P. Mason and the Hon. J. Sterling Morton. We treated them to slap-jacks of our own make, which the judge seemed to relish, but our friend Morton did not seem to appreciate our cooking. Hon. P. W. Hitchcock, afterwards United States senator, and his Excellency Governor Saunders, then our governor, also made us a visit. They were not repairing fences, but were quite likely examining J. Sterling Morton's fence around the saline land. Many of lesser note visited us during the fall.

Late in the fall I moved my family to Salt Creek and wintered in one apartment of the log cabin which Mr. Donovan occupied, and as the salt business always ceases when winter begins, we put in the time as best we could, chasing rabbits, etc. Uncle Dick Wallingford, learning that I had graduated at the carpenter's bench, besought me to build him a house. I suppose that I have the honor of having built for Uncle Dick the first frame building in Lancaster County, in the winter of 1861-2. I made the doors of black walnut lumber that was about as hard as glass. I also remember the struggle I had one night in the following summer in making a coffin for Grandmother Wallingford out of that hard lumber.

I took up my abode at the basin with my wife and two children on the 1st of May, 1862. That same day a county convention was held at the basin and nearly every man in the county was there, but I remember none of the proceedings, as I was occupied in setting my house in order. Two or three days later Milton Langdon arrived with his family and took up their abode just west of the B. & M. bridge north of Oak Creek. The season of 1862 was exceedingly prosperous. Great numbers of people came and went every day. Numerous other furnaces were started and the salt works presented quite the appearance of business.

Here I must beg indulgence while I relate a little story: In the winter of 1862-3 there was an old fellow by the name of Ben Vanthiesen camping and boiling salt, and there was an Indian camp a little distance away. The Indians had been bothering Ben until he had become impatient with them. A young, stalwart brave thought to play a joke on him and approached him with the usual aborigine salutation, "How," and at the same time offered Ben a finely polished ramrod, which he reached out to take, when Mr. Indian struck him a violent blow across the knuckles. Ben could not stand that and as quick as thought returned

the compliment with his fist, propelled by his stalwart arm. The blow took effect just under the ear of the young, brave and he reeled backward and sat down in a pan of boiling salt water. A sharp shriek, and Mr. Injun jumped for life and ran wildly into the swamp and mired down, hallowing all sorts of bloody murder in the Indian tongue. Other braves went to his relief and carried him to camp. He was thoroughly cooked and well salted. The little settlement soon became alarmed, fearing that the Indians would be enraged and seek vengeance. A hurried consultation was held and the camp was visited to learn, if possible, the temper of the redskins. We found the man almost dead and while he was writhing in agony the other Indians were making all sorts of fun of him, calling him squaw man, etc., and pointing their fingers at him. Finally Ben Vanthiesen appeared on the scene and they began at once to lionize him, as if to further tantalize the poor unfortunate. They finally made a litter of a buffalo robe and carried him away with them, while in a dying condition.

On the morning of the 4th of July, my wife suggested that we celebrate by gathering a lot of gooseberries, of which there were great quantities. Just as we had filled our buckets we heard someone hallowing and as we emerged from the bush we saw Elder Young and party, consisting of Rev. Peter Schamp, Doctor McKesson, Mr. Warnes, Luke Lavender and Jacob Dawson. They were on the search for a suitable location for a colony. They were patriotic and had not forgotten the flag. Dinner was quickly provided and disposed of, the neighbors were called in, and we had a celebration that was a feast to the soul. As the dear old elder talked to us of our blessed flag and how it had been trailed in the dust by recreant hands, and of the mighty struggle that was then going on to maintain its supremacy, how our hearts swelled with emotion as we realized that our country and our all was at the moment trembling in the balance. This was probably the first time our national flag ever kissed the breezes of Lancaster County, and it was an occasion long to be remembered by all the participants. Some, we know not how many, have gone to their long home. Uncle Jacob Dawson lived just long enough to see the foundations of Lincoln well laid, and was called away. Our dear friend, Elder Young, lived to see the city of his founding great and strong and marching forward to greater achievements.

In the second week in July and after making a thorough examination of the surrounding country, the party made a settlement on the land where Lincoln now stands, and dedicated a portion of section twenty-two for a townsite and christened it Lancaster. Lancaster did not grow as more modern towns do. A few settlers began to arrive and settled on the beautiful lands in the vicinity, but not many cared to try their hands at building a city just then. Town building was a slow process in those days, so far inland.

It must be remembered that the bill providing for the Union Pacific Railroad had passed but the previous winter and the eastern terminus had not been fixed by the President. Our nearest railroad was at St. Joseph, Missouri, and Ottumwa, Iowa, and further it was yet very questionable whether our upland prairie was of any value for agricultural purposes. The farms were all yet confined to the creek bottoms. Prairie fires would sweep the prairies just as soon as the grass was dry in the fall and leave the roots exposed to the scorching rays of the autumn sun, and then to the frosts of winter. The snow would gather into huge drifts, there being nothing to hold it except the ravines. This resulted



in very short grass crops on the upland and frequently there was scarcely enough to hide a garter snake in the summer. People saw the fact, that the prairie produced but little grass, but were slow to discover the causes, and were ready to condemn the land as worthless for cultivation. Some are led to believe that great changes have taken place in the general character of the soil, as well as the climate. We have frequently been asked if the land was not all covered with buffalo grass. To this question we answer most emphatically "No." It may have been at some remote period, but never since white men have known it. Many are of the opinion that it scarcely ever rained in those early days. That is certainly a mistake. The summer of 1860 produced scarcely any rain (I well remember that year of the Kansas famine—I resided at Nebraska City at the time) and to help matters along there were sixteen days and nights of continuous hot south wind. It was almost insufferably hot, so stifling it was that people could not bear to sit in the wind, even late in the evenings, but would be compelled to seek a wind-break. Except that memorable year rains were just as plentiful and as well distributed through the growing season in those years as they are now, and vegetation where it had a fair show made the same luxuriant growth, but we do not wonder that the overland immigrant who passed through this country in the early spring, or late in the fall, pronounced this a desert land, for as far as the eye could reach in all directions nothing could be seen but the black prairie; most dreary indeed was the spectacle. There being nothing to retain the moisture and the sun bearing down on the defenseless head, and the dancing vapor playing in the distance like specters, it did not seem as if it ever could be a fit abode for civilized man.

It took men and women of strong nerve and great faith to attempt to build a home in this wilderness then, but there were some brave souls that were equal to the hour, and such were the men who founded Lancaster. The story of the founding of the embryo city and its struggle over the location of the county seat is an interesting theme. The settlement at Yankee Hill (where the insane hospital now stands) under the leadership of John Cadman and William Field made an interesting and energetic fight for the prize. These men looked with jealousy upon the Lancaster colony. Our friend Cadman was wide awake and with a fertile brain and was ready for almost any emergency. It will be remembered that the boundaries of the county were materially changed in the winter of 1862 and 1863. Friend Cadman secured the election to the Legislature from old Clay County. John Gregory was by some trick of legerdemain elected to represent Lancaster, and Hon. H. W. Parker was sent from Gage. The trio each had an axe to grind. Parker wanted to make the county seat secure for Beatrice and Cadman wanted to spoil Elder Young's little game and make a new town, and clothe it with the honors of the county seat. So they arranged and carried through the scheme to eliminate Clay County from the map of Nebraska and gave to Gage the south twelve miles and the north twelve miles to Lancaster in the interest of Cadman and his friends. Thus it came that Gage and Lancaster are each thirty-six miles long, and that Clay County was buried out of sight to be resurrected at a later day farther to the west. I have never been able to learn just what interest our friend Gregory was to have, but suppose he was to be endorsed for the postoffice at a salary of one dollar per month at the basin, and also to have his name perpetuated by renaming the great basin "Gregory Basin," both of

which he secured, but the honors of the office and the name were very much like a soap bubble, they got away from him in a very short time. Cadman and his friends lost no time in fixing upon a point for their new town at Yankee Hill and then came the tug of war. About this time what was known as the steam wagon road was located from Nebraska City to the west and the crossing of Salt Creek fixed at Yankee Hill. An appropriation of \$500.00 was secured by the Legislature for a bridge on Salt Creek in Lancaster County, to be located by territorial commissioners. When these gentlemen came to fix the location of the bridge the Lancaster party headed by Elder Young and the Yankee Hill folks led by Cadman each made an earnest showing why they should have the bridge, and I take it for granted that each succeeded in convincing the commissioners that their claim was the best, for they divided the money between the two points and thus with the aid of private help two good bridges were secured. Each place made slow progress; a little store and a blacksmith shop were secured by each. Lancaster had the help of the salt interest while its rival had the freight road. Each had energetic men as leaders and they were equally well situated, but Lancaster had the sympathy of the greater number of people in the county. Friend Cadman had aroused the ire of all his old neighbors on the heads of Salt Creek. They were very sore over having all their pleasant dreams of a county seat at Olathe suddenly disappear and their county torn in two and swallowed by her greedy sisters.

When the county seat problem came before the people for settlement the Lancaster folks had a walkaway and secured a grand triumph at the polls.

The county seat election occurred in the summer of 1864 and was held at the house of your humble servant just south of the great basin. Notwithstanding his defeat in his pet project of founding a county seat Cadman secured a return to the Legislature for several terms and had an honorable part in moulding the destiny of the county, in helping to secure the capital removal bill, and securing the location of the capital within her borders, and while Elder Young may be justly honored as the founder of Lincoln, to John Cadman belongs the honor of doing splendid work in securing a grand triumph in removing the capital, and of securing the principal benefit to his county, and while he did not realize the full fruition of his hopes in getting it at Yankee Hill I am glad to know that he has been duly rewarded, and that in his green old age he is blessed with plenty of the world's goods and friends innumerable to brighten his pathway.

In the early summer of 1862 I had the pleasure of helping to raise a log house for Charles Calkins on Middle Creek, on what was afterwards known as the Hartman farm and about five miles west of the city. This was the first log cabin between the basin and the Grand Island settlement. In the beautiful month of June my good wife made a visit to Nebraska City and left me alone "with my glory" for a little season. One afternoon a vast throng of Omahas camped at the head of the basin, but we thought nothing of it as it was a common thing to see great numbers of Indians on their way to their summer hunting grounds on the Republican River. John Chambers' family lived a little way from our cabin. I went to bed as usual that night with my bright sabre under my pillow and a rifle standing within easy reach. Near midnight I heard a (not very) "gentle tapping as of someone rapping at my cabin door." "What's the matter," I cried. "Matter enough," said poor trembling John, his wife clinging to him

like grim death, and crazed with fear. "The Indians are upon us and for God's sake what shall we do?" Whether I dressed or not you may guess. I forgot that I ever had a sabre or gun. When I awoke my ears were greeted with the most unearthly sounds, as if a thousand devils were cut loose. We all ran as most folks do when badly scared, and we hid as best we could among the hills, and waited the coming of events which we expected in about a minute. The pandemonium continued, but came no nearer. We waited patiently for the enemy, but they did not come. We were disappointed. The Indians were expecting to meet their mortal foes, the Sioux, on their hunting grounds and were having a war dance, "only this and nothing more."

Salt Creek and its principal tributary, Oak Creek, were wonderfully supplied with fish. Black suckers and buffalo were the leading varieties. The settlers had plenty of sport and much profit in fishing. We all had plenty of fish; great numbers were caught which would weigh ten or fifteen pounds each and I have seen them tip the beam at thirty-five pounds. Elk and antelope were plentiful and the nimrods of that day had exciting sport in the chase. Some of the settlers spent a great portion of their time roaming the prairies in search of game. Many of them never came home without a supply of meat. If elk could not be found or captured, some luckless freighter's steer had to suffer the ordeal of being converted into elk meat. Many a steer has undergone the change in short order, and Mr. Steer's only safety was in staying close to camp. The basins were a great place for wild water-fowl to congregate. Geese, brants, swans, ducks and pelicans were there by the thousands; it was the hunter's paradise. Wild fruits, such as grapes, plums, gooseberries and elderberries were abundant along the streams and were gathered by the bushel.

As the Union armies regained the rebels' strongholds of Missouri, great numbers of rebels found it convenient to find other quarters, and many of them seemed to have the idea that salt would save their bacon, consequently hordes of them would gather at the basins and frequently they would show their rebellious spirits in acts and words which were very unpleasant for Union men to endure. At one time they became so insolent and threatening that the Union men of the valley thought it necessary to organize for self-defense. Our Missouri friends came to the conclusion that "discretion was the better part of valor," so nothing very serious occurred.

Elder Young preached the first sermon of the locality at our house, on the Sabbath following the 4th of July, 1862, to a fair sized congregation. A Sabbath School was organized very soon afterwards and was of great value to the youth of the community. This was probably the first Sabbath School between the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains. Religious meetings were held frequently under the leadership of Elder Young, Reverend Doctor McKesson and Rev. Peter Schamp, and other ministers who chanced to stray so far into the wilderness.

As a general rule the settlers enjoyed themselves very well and were reasonably prosperous, but it was not always so. Sometimes winter storms would shut us off from communication with the world at large, and provisions would get short, and we would be driven to desperate straits. I have known families to live on boiled corn or wheat for a week at a time with no seasoning but salt. The winter of '63 and '64 was a most desperate one. The cold was extreme. The last day of

December, 1863, was a memorable day for the intensity of the cold. I had no thermometer except my own blood, but that signified that it was the most intense cold of my life. Snow and salt combined to make my home about the coldest spot in North America. I afterwards learned that at Burlington, Iowa, the thermometer indicated thirty degrees below zero. That winter was one of much suffering. Salt had declined materially in price and the demand had fallen off, while the wood for boiling had become scarce and the weather was so severe, and it seemed that all things conspired against the people, and for a time the whole settlement was on the verge of starvation. The spring of 1864 found the settlement in rather a dilapidated and impoverished condition, but hope soon revived. Immigrants began to arrive in goodly numbers and they began opening up farms, and that gave new life and hope to all. Settlements began to extend westward and all the people began to have more faith in Nebraska. It may be well to relate here a common saying of those days just to show how absurd the expressed views of many people were in regard to this country. If an incoming immigrant talked of going over to the Blue Valley to look for a location, he was told at once that it was of no use to look at that country for it never rained west of Salt Creek. That fool notion had become so thoroughly inbedded in the minds of many of the early settlers that I expect some of them firmly believe it until this day.

It has been claimed that F. Morton Donovan was the first white child born in the locality, but the locality was very large, for the fact is he was born on Stevens Creek ten miles distant. The first white child born at the basin or in the immediate vicinity of the present city was a son born to Joseph Chambers in the summer of 1862. He died in infancy. My son Elmer Elsworth Cox was born March 3, 1863, and was the first white child born in the immediate vicinity that is now living.

There were some exciting and almost ludicrous scenes in the courts at the basin. Milton Langdon and J. S. Gregory were the two prominent attorneys and in all matters of judicial nature they were arrayed against each other. Both of them were keen and tricky, ever on the alert to catch the enemy napping and they had some high times. Occasionally a case would arise which tried the mettle of court attorneys and officers. A rough customer who it was said had graduated in the rebel army had put in an appearance and had made some violent threats in which he promised to kill some citizens. An information was filed and a warrant was issued and placed in the hands of the sheriff. A crowd gathered at the court room and it soon became known that the culprit refused to surrender to the sheriff. All became excited and while the court was giving some directions to the citizens about assisting the sheriff, the fellow came stalking into the court room, carrying his rifle in a position for immediate use. The sheriff followed at a convenient distance of probably ten yards. The court invited the man to take a seat, which was promptly declined, but he took a careful survey of the court and all the surroundings and, with the rifle ready cocked and finger on the trigger, he began to retreat and all hands seemed to stand out of his way. The justice remarked to the sheriff and posse, "you will be justified in taking that man if you have to kill him to do it," but they did not take him. He backed off with drawn weapon and bid defiance, and no one was willing to take the risk of his capture. He was bent on vengeance and had no intention of leaving until he



ARLINGTON HOTEL, LINCOLN, 1885



By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

ELEVENTH STREET BETWEEN N AND ALLEY, FACING EAST, 1875



had wreaked it on somebody. He became angry at the justice for saying "take him dead or alive," and during the next morning while his Honor was busy at his salt furnace he happened to observe the sneaking scoundrel creeping up a little ravine in the rear with a view of getting a sure shot at him, but finding that his victim had observed him he started off at a rapid pace across the basin. His Honor quickly halted him. He instantly cocked his rifle, but sternly and most emphatically his Honor commanded a truce, and marched straight up to the fellow, who curled down like a whipped cur, and received a court blessing in the open air and took his final departure for parts unknown. Had it not been for a good degree of firmness on that occasion it is quite probable that some other speaker would have had the honors of this occasion.

On the morning of August 20, 1862, there was a heavy frost that killed all the corn on the lowlands throughout Nebraska.

During the spring of 1863 J. S. Gregory built the first frame house in the vicinity of the basin and made extensive improvements. Mr. Eaton of Platts-mouth, an uncle of our friend Gregory, became quite well acquainted with him during these years and their fraternal relations are spread upon the court records, for many years, of Lancaster County. Settlements increased rapidly during the spring and early summer of 1864 and 1865.

The first term of district court was held on the 8th day of November, 1864 (the day Lincoln was elected to the second term), in Jacob Dawson's double log cabin and was presided over by Judge Elmer S. Dundy, with the same dignity that is manifest in these days in the government courthouse. Members of the bar present were T. M. Marquette and Judge Pottenger of Platts-mouth. Uncle Jake's cabin stood just where the Commercial Block now stands. Uncle Jake was put to straits to properly entertain the judge and the attorneys. I remember that he came over and borrowed all the store coffee at the basin. As if to add to the pleasures of the occasion we enjoyed a regular blizzard of whirling, drifting snow. The judge appointed Pottenger prosecuting attorney and friend Pott, as we called him, drew up an indictment against one Pemberton for shooting into a bird's nest. The charge was malicious assault with intent to kill. His Honor allowed Pottenger \$75.00. Marquette defended Pemberton for \$10.00 and quashed the indictment, and Pemberton skipped the country before other proceedings could be had. The story of the crime is as follows: Old man Bird had some difficulty with Pemberton about the chickens and one of the young birds (a pullet) sung some unsavory songs for Pemberton's benefit. Pemberton met the old bird at the door one morning and demanded satisfaction, and finally drew a revolver and shot, the ball missing the old bird, but passing through the door and lodging in the wall just above a bed full of young birds. Then he hit the old bird a lick on the head with the butt of the revolver. The old bird flew to the justice office all covered with blood, just as the judge was seating himself at the breakfast table, and of course a little scene occurred which I will not relate.

In the summer of 1864 the whole West was very easily excited after the horrible massacre in Minnesota. Wild rumors were afloat continually, and the scattered settlements were harrassed with fears throughout the whole summer and fall. The most trifling circumstances were magnified as they were related by the panic stricken people into general massacres of wholesale slaughtering of

some neighboring settlement. The impression prevailed that the rebel government at Richmond was inciting the redskins to a merciless warfare all along the frontier. Tomahawks and scalping knives of the red devils were vividly pictured in all our dreams. We knew that the dark hours of the war presented a grand opportunity for them to clean us out root and branch. We also knew that they were in no friendly mood, or, in other words, we were quite sure that they were thirsting for our blood, and all that kept them back was their fear of a terrible retribution and further the fire we saw was not all fox fire. There were people murdered by them in Nebraska and not a few of them. At Plumb Creek on the west, on Turkey Creek, on the Little Blue, there were murders and kidnappings, such as make my blood boil to this day as we think of them. We had just cause to fear, and it would have been foolhardiness to be otherwise than on the alert.

In the month of August while I was on a trip to the river with a load of salt, a panic occurred, the story of which I shall relate in brief as told by my better half who helped to enjoy it in full. During the day word was received that all the settlement on the Blue had been murdered, and from every appearance the Indians would bounce upon the Salt Creek settlement that night. It was nearly dark, wife and children were at the mercy of the neighbors, as they had no team. Uncle Peter Bellows came to the rescue and with his broad German accent he said, "Mrs. Coax you shall go wid us." Blessed be the name of Uncle Peter forever, but Uncle Peter had his peculiarities. He was a great hand to gather up things, such as old log chains, old plow shares, broken pitchforks, horse shoes (he did not have a horse), ox yokes and all sorts of old irons. He was rich in old irons. In packing up to go Uncle Peter had, of course, to take the last one of those precious jewels, but in the hurry and excitement he forgot to take any provisions for the family. When he came for my wife he said, "Mrs. Coax, we takes you and the childrens, but we can't take notings else. Vell dot ish so, hurry up mine Gott, the Injuns is coming sure." My wife protested that she must take something to eat, and some bedding, and finally persuaded him to take a sack of flour (50 pounds) and a ham of meat and a bed, provided she would walk herself. We then had three children, the oldest, Mrs. Kate Ruby of Marquette, Nebraska, then aged five years, the next aged three years, now Mrs. Nettie M. Pingree of Colby, Kansas, and then Elmer, aged sixteen months. The oldest girl walked and Nettie was perched upon the load of goods; my wife carried the babe upon her right arm and with the left she carried one end of a trunk a mile and a half to the ford. The babe she carried the full ten miles that dark, stormy night. Wild with fright they went pell mell. Imagine if you can the terrors of that awful night, the rolling thunder, the lurid lightning, and the mortal dread of the savage foe. Weary and fainting they arrived at Shirley's ranch late at night. In the morning it developed that the sack of flour and meat ham were all the provisions in camp for a hundred hungry souls, except green corn bought of Shirley, but they had plenty of old irons. It further developed that there had been no hostile Indians within a full hundred miles.

When it became certain that the Union would triumph over the Confederate States, and there would be ample security here as elsewhere for life and property, then great numbers came. Also a further stimulus to settlement was the certainty of the building of the Union Pacific Railroad; its eastern terminus had been fixed in the fall of 1864 and the first ground was broken, and it may fairly



be said that Nebraska had awakened to a new and vigorous life. During the spring of 1864, having become convinced that it occasionally rained on Blue River, we made up our minds to cast our lot with the little settlement in the neighborhood where now stands the beautiful little city of Seward, and made preparations during the summer and accomplished our object, making the removal December 1st. Thus ends our immediate connection with the struggling pioneers of Lancaster County.\*

## BIRTH OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

By Charles Wake

NOTE.—The following paper was read before the Nebraska State Historical Society on January 14, 1908, and is reprinted from the Collections, Volume XVI.

When I returned to your city a few weeks ago after an absence of nearly forty years, I missed the once familiar faces of Elder Young, Doctor McKesson, John Cadman, Peter Schamp, Luke Lavender, and others of the pioneers who located the Town of Lancaster, the county seat of Lancaster County. I have been able to find but three of these pioneers as yet, Judge Pound and Edward Warnes, who live in the city, and Mr. Hawker, now living at Havelock.

The question has been asked, "How did a few poor homesteaders manage to donate 800 acres of land to the State of Nebraska in order to locate the capital at this point?" We were all poor enough in money, but rich in land, or, perhaps, we were land-poor. The land we held had but little cash value. We had bought some of the best of it with "college scrip" at about sixty cents an acre and the rest we had taken under the homestead and preemption laws. We made the donation in this way: every settler within a few miles of Lancaster subscribed forty acres of land; then Dawson, Lavender and John Giles vacated as much of their farms as was needed to make the town site, and took other land and more of it in lieu of that which they relinquished.

Lavender gave up the eighty acres of his homestead on which the capitol is built and got as a balance an eighty of James Young which joined him on the east and a thousand dollars in cash. His demand for that thousand dollars came near wrecking the whole scheme. He was told that if he did not moderate his demands the capital would be located elsewhere, but he declared that rather than move away from his home and get nothing for his improvements he would let the capital go to the Blue River or elsewhere. After some heated talk about a rope necktie, tar and feathers, etc., we surrendered and in some way managed to satisfy him.

How this princely sum of a thousand dollars and some other hundreds needed to pay the Government for its claim on these lands was obtained I have no knowledge. I remember that Elder Miller was deeply interested in the scheme, but did not put in any money of his own. He asked me if I would not rather give \$100 in cash than to give some of my land. I was willing but had not the money, so the elder took my note and advanced the cash.

If I remember aright, when I came to this place in the fall of 1866, there was but one house that had both a board floor and a shingle roof. Dawson and

---

\* EDITOR'S NOTE: I knew most of the pioneers mentioned in the foregoing and so far as I know none of them are now living, not even Mr. Cox.

Lavender lived in log houses with shingle roofs, but earthen floor. Elder Young's house had a board floor, but the roof was of earth. Doctor McKesson lived in a dugout half a mile north of O Street. Mr. Hardenbergh, who was interested in some salt works and kept a small store, had, I think, a stone house that was fairly comfortable and decently furnished. He was the one aristocrat of the town. He managed to sell out very soon after and return to New Jersey. There was some timber in the county at that time and one or two saw mills. A man by the name of Cozad had one of these mills not far from where the Burlington depot now stands. Town lots were so cheap they were offered free to anyone who would build a house worth \$100. A friend of mine secured a fifty foot lot on these terms just east of the present Journal office. He borrowed a wagon and two yoke of oxen, and I went with him to a sawmill on Oak Creek, where he loaded on cottonwood boards with which we built a shanty about sixteen by twenty or twenty-four feet. The snow was deep, we were poor teamsters, and had many mishaps by the way, but finally completed our task and moved into the new house on the first day of March, 1867—a month long to be remembered by the early settlers of Nebraska, as every night the thermometer fell to zero or below. The last day of February was warm, the snow melted and every little ravine had a running stream. A poor man living at the salt basin driving an ox team could not force them through the broken ice and melted snow. He labored with them until he was soaking wet, then the weather turned intensely cold and he got home at last so badly frozen that, after weeks of suffering, he insisted that his feet should be amputated, and Doctor McKesson undertook the operation. He had no proper amputation saw, and I wish, right here, to correct a story that has often been told that the Doctor used a common handsaw for this surgical work. He borrowed the saw from my partner, Mr. Biles, who now lives in Los Angeles, California. It was a stiff-back saw with fine teeth, suitable for use in cabinet work, which Biles had brought from London, and though larger than a surgeon's saw it was very well adapted for such an emergency. One foot was taken off, but the patient was too weak to recover and died soon after.

There is another item of interest which I do not find recorded in the history, an incident which reflects honor on one of the early settlers in the new city. Darwin Peckham was a carpenter and contractor, and he built the stone block of two stories still standing on the northeast corner of O and Tenth streets, which was occupied by the banking house of James Sweet and Brock, the grocery house of Rudolph, and the general store of Martin Pflug & Brother. Whilst Mr. Peckham was busy earning money for the support of his family and perhaps laying the foundation for a modest competence, it was reported one day that in one of the hotels a man was sick with smallpox. He was at once taken to a shanty on the outskirts of the town, and a volunteer nurse was called for. Mr. Peckham undertook this disagreeable and dangerous duty, caught the disease himself and barely escaped a horrible death. There are many men today wearing those bronze buttons in the lapels of their coats and drawing pensions from a grateful nation for heroic services on a hundred battlefields who never performed a nobler deed, or suffered more for our common humanity than this unassuming citizen of whom I write.

The other day I stood on O Street and called the attention of a young law student to the lot on the corner of O and Eleventh streets, on which stands



NORTHWEST CORNER OF O AND NINTH STREETS, 1868  
 Showing Doctor Gilbert's business house, the first drug store in Lincoln



By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

SOUTH SIDE OF O STREET BETWEEN NINTH AND TENTH, 1877



part of Rudge & Guenzel's store, and told him that I stood by and saw that lot sold for \$87.50; and he asked me why all of us did not buy lots and grow rich by the investment. This is the question that naturally occurs to anyone at this late day, and in self-defense it should be answered.

Nebraska at that time was supposed to be a great desert, not only by eastern people, but those who lived in the towns along the Missouri River really thought there was no land worth cultivating so far west as Lancaster County. The location of the capital was regarded as a doubtful project, and men with money to invest stood by and saw these choice lots sold for a mere song. It must be remembered there was not a mile of railroad south of the Platte River; that a large part of Iowa was still a howling wilderness; and even on the grand prairie in Central Illinois land could then be bought for five dollars an acre. Some of those who had faith in the city and made heavy investments came to grief when hard times came. One heroic woman told me the other day that she took in washings during several of those hard years so as to pay taxes and save the family property.

It is curious how soon some people forget. Mr. Bashley was the first lumber merchant in the city and some authorities say that Mr. Larkley was the first. Bashley and his son drove two mule teams to east Nebraska City and hauled lumber to the salt basin where I built a salt house for Tichenor & Green. Pine lumber came in with the advent of the capital. In Lancaster times we used cottonwood and walnut. There was very fine walnut timber at the time on the streams west of here.

In Lancaster times Jacob Dawson was postmaster and Judge Pound was his deputy. I am sorry that the judge did not hold that position a year longer; if he had I should be \$30.00 richer. The first Lincoln postmaster was a thief and I lost that \$30.00 in the mail and the postmaster was sent to the penitentiary for this and other robberies. Captain Donovan, his father-in-law, induced Governor Butler to procure his pardon and he disappeared. S. B. Pound, the young lawyer, had so good a reputation for honesty, even in that early day, that a jury of six men, of whom I was one, refused to give a verdict against his client on the sole ground that three of the men declared it to be their unalterable conviction that Mr. Pound would not defend a case that was not absolutely correct and true.

## CHAPTER XII

### LANCASTER AND LINCOLN LOT EXCHANGES

Whereas, Governor David Butler, J. Gillespie and T. P. Kennard, commissioners of location of the Town of Lincoln, to be the seat of government for the State of Nebraska, in the United States of America, have promised to accept the southeast quarter of section 23 in township 10 north of range 6 east of the sixth principal meridian, according to the Government survey of the said state, and now surveyed and platted as the townsite of Lancaster, in the County of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, have agreed to accept said quarter section of land, as part of the townsite of said townsite of Lincoln, provided the owners of lots in said townsite of Lancaster will submit to a resurvey of said townsite of Lancaster, to correspond with the plat and survey of the other portions of the Town of Lincoln, to be so located, platted and surveyed, and accept lots, falling in said plat and survey of Lincoln, upon the lots owned by such individuals in the townsite of Lancaster, or nearest thereto, when such lots shall be covered by a street; said lots, in Lincoln, to be so accepted by such owners, in lieu of said Lancaster lots, shall be of the same superficial area, and after such survey and plat of Lincoln, said owners to quit claim all their title in and to said Lancaster town lots to the State of Nebraska, and the State of Nebraska to quit claim to such owners, the lots conveyed by said state in lieu of said Lancaster town lots, respectively.

Now therefore, in consideration of the foregoing premises, and of \$1.00 to each of us, the undersigned paid by the State of Nebraska, we, the persons whose names are subscribed to this agreement, promise and agree, jointly and severally, to and with the said State of Nebraska, in the United States of America, that we will submit to a resurvey of said townsite of Lancaster by the surveyor appointed by said commissioners of location of said townsite of Lincoln, as set forth in the foregoing "Proviso" and accept from the said State of Nebraska lots, according to our respective ownership in said townsite of Lancaster, of the same superficial area in said Town of Lincoln, upon, or in the immediate location of our respective lots, in the manner and as it is set forth in the foregoing proviso, we the said owners of such lots in said townsite of Lancaster, hereby promise and agree to quit claim all our right, title and interest in, and to said townsite of Lancaster, previous to demanding from said state, said conveyance respectively, dated Lancaster, August 13, 1867.

Owners' Names	Description of Property in Lancaster	
	No. of Lots	No. Block
Nancy A. McKesson, by J. B. McKesson, atty.	3, 4, 5, 6	52
	3, 4, 5, 6	60
S. B. Galey.....	8	11
Martin Pflug.....	1	10
William T. Donovan.....	5, 6, 7, 8	25
	3 and 4	22
J. K. Hardenberg, by T. F. Hardenberg, atty...	3 and 4	39
	1	..
G. B. Hardenberg, by T. F. Hardenberg, atty...	8	23
M. Langdon.....	1, 2, 3, 4	25
	1, 7, 8	9
	1 and 2	39
Jacob Dawson .....	2, 3, 4	5
	1 and 2	8
	2, 3, 4	9
	1	13
Charles Bloyd.....	3 and 4	8
J. M. Young.....	5, 6, 7, 8	8
James Sweet.....	4, 3, 5, 6	12
Cyrus Carter.....	5 and 6	29
James Sweet.....	East Half	20
	East Half	16
	East Half	32
	East Half	36
	East Half	64

## LOT EXCHANGE TABLE, 1867

To Whom Lots Assigned	No. of Lot and Block of Lots in Lincoln		As Equivalent for Lots and Blocks in Lancaster		Remarks.
	Lots	Block	Lots	Block	
Nancy A. McKesson.	5 and 6	4	3, 4, 5, 6	60	Deed executed and delivered.
	1 and 2	11			
	5, 6, 7, 8	11	3, 4, 5, 6	52	
	11 and 12	11			
Charles Crawford...	9 and 10	11	3 and 4	53	Deed executed and delivered.
G. W. Merrill.....	1, 2, 11, 12	15	1, 2, 7, 8	48	Deed ready for delivery.
	9, 10, 11, 12	27	3, 4, 5, 6	36	
G. H. Hilton.....	1, 2, 3, 4	17	1, 2, 3, 4	44	Deeded to W. W. Dunham as assignee of G. H. Hilton.
David Beasley.....	6	17	East Half	28	Deed executed and delivered.

To Whom Lots Assigned	No. of Lot and Block of Lots in Lincoln		As Equivalent for Lots and Blocks in Lancaster		Remarks.
	Lots	Block	Lots	Block	
J. K. Hardenberg. . . . .	7 and 8	21	3 and 4	39	Deed executed and delivered.
J. G. Miller. . . . .		23	For	64	Deed executed and delivered.
School District No. 1. . . . .	7 and 8	27	5 and 6	11	Deed ready to deliver.
G. B. Hardenberg. . . . .	12	30	8	23	Deed executed and delivered.
W. T. Donovan. . . . .	1, 2, 3, 4	31	5, 6, 7, 8	25	Deed executed and delivered.
	5 and 6	34	3 and 4	22	Deed executed and delivered.
M. Langdon. . . . .	9, 10, 11, 12	31	1, 2, 3, 4	25	Deed executed and delivered.
	1, 2, 12	32	1 and 2	39	Deed executed and delivered.
	4, 5, 6	33	1, 7, 8	9	Deed executed and delivered.
Jacob Dawson. . . . .	9, 10, 11	32	2, 3, 4	9	Deed executed and delivered.
	15, 16, 17, 18	45	1 and 2	8	Deed executed and delivered.
	6	41	1	13	Deed executed and delivered.
Minnie E. Jennings. . . . .	1 and 2	33	1 and 2	23	Deed ready to deliver.
S. B. Gale. . . . .	14 and 15	34	8	11	Deed executed and delivered.
	1, 7, 8, 9		5 and 6	9	Deeded to G. as assignee of T.
	10, 17, 18	39	5 and 6	3	Hudson and C. D. Aikens
Myer Reis. . . . .	2 and 3	35	4	11	Cash \$90.00 as assignee of S. Hilpps.
J. M. Riddill. . . . .	4	35	5 and 6	27	Deeded to J. Sweet as assignee of J. M. Riddill.
W. J. Abbott. . . . .	5	35	2	11	\$45.00 cash received; deeded to H. B. Beebe as assignee to W. J. Abbott.
R. Monteith. . . . .	6	35	4	27	Deed executed and delivered.
Cyrus Carter. . . . .	1 and 2	37	5 and 6 1 and 2	29 37	Failed to perform his agreement and deed not delivered.



To Whom Lots Assigned	No. of Lot and Block of Lots in Lincoln		As Equivalent for Lots and Blocks in Lancaster		Remarks.
	Lots	Block	Lots	Block	
J. M. Young.....	4, 5, 6	37	3 and 4	13	Deeds executed and delivered to himself and others as his assignees.
	4, 5, 6	39	5, 6, 7, 8	27	
	1, 2, 3, 4	45	5, 6, 7, 8	8	
Martin Pflug.....	1 and 2	44	1	10	Deed executed and delivered.
Charles Bloyd.....	11, 12, 13, 14	45	3 and 4	8	Deed executed and ready to be delivered.
James Sweet.....	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	21	West Half	12	Deed executed and ready to be delivered.
	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	27			
	7, 8, 9, 10				Deed executed and ready to be delivered.
	11, 12	33	East Half	16	
	1	35	East Half	20	Deeded to J. M. Riddle as assignee of James Sweet.
	7, 8, 9, 10				
	11, 12	35	East Half	32	Deeds executed and delivered.
	7, 8, 9, 10				
	11, 12	37	East Half	56	Deeds executed and delivered.
	7, 8, 9	41	East Half	64	
	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	42	8	29	Deeds executed and delivered.
	10, 11, 12	44	1	61	

## UNSOLD LOTS, JANUARY 1, 1869

The following list of lots, compiled from the original commissioners' report to the Legislature, comprises those not sold before January 1, 1869. The amount of appraisement is also given for each.

All of B25.....	\$ 700.00
Lots 2 and 3, B144.....	60.00
Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B164.....	260.00
Lots all in B168 .....	200.00
Lots all in B170.....	200.00

Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B174.....	260.00
Lot 4, B184.....	60.00
Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 in B194.....	135.00
Lots all in B190.....	200.00
Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B198.....	100.00
Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B204.....	275.00
Lots 11 and 12 in B218.....	70.00
Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 in B220.....	155.00
Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B222.....	220.00
Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B224.....	140.00
Lots all in B228.....	200.00
Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B230.....	100.00
Lots all in B234.....	315.00
Lots 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 in B238.....	160.00
Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B240.....	310.00
Lots 2, 5, 12 in B244.....	135.00

---

\$4,255.00

## FIRST LOT PURCHASERS IN LINCOLN

The following list comprises the names of the men who purchased the first lots in the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, the description of the lots they bought and the prices they paid for them:

Ainger, G. W., B100, 1-4, 1-5; \$140.00.

Allen, Samuel E., B2, 1-4; B34, 1-11; B39, 1-12; B40, 1-9; B56, 1-12; B116, 1-4; B117, 1-10; \$689.00.

Atwood, Nathaniel, B154, 1-9, 1-11, 1-12; \$355.00.

Bowen, Dr. A., B62, 1-2; \$60.00.

Burgert, G. H., B100, 1-12; \$124.00.

Beekman, William, B40, 1-15; \$62.00.

Beebe, H. B., B35, 1-5; \$45.00.

Bruner, C. E., B21, 1-10; \$99.00.

Blakely, N., B154, 1-4; \$150.00.

Benadom, S. P., B242, 1-8; \$35.00.

Beales, S. B., B154, 1-1, 1-2; \$150.00.

Bergmann, I., B104, 1-8; \$15.00.

Baird, C. N., B210, 1-1; \$80.00.

Babcock, Mrs. H. D., B146, 9 and 10; \$210.00.

Blum, Jacob, B52, 1-6, 1-7; B62, 1-3; B70, 1-4, 1-5, 1-8, 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B142, south half; \$541.00.

Brown, S. R., B176, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; all of B190; B192, 1-1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12; all of B206; all of B208; B218, 3 and 4; B220, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12; all of B236; \$2,240.00.

Brush & Hawks, B20, 1-1, 1-2; B28, 1-1, 1-2; B40, 1-10; B57, 1-6; B86, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18; B100, 1-8; \$584.00.

Brown, W. A., B41, 1-14; B42, 1-9; B144, 1-7, 1-8; B184, 1-8; B210, 1-12; B242, 1-9; \$485.00.

- Brock, N. C., B40, 1-11, 1-12, B58, 1-11, 1-12; B64, 1-8, 1-9; B96, 1-1, 1-2; B152, 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; \$880.00.
- Bryant, J. H., B36, south half; B100, 1-7; B120, 1-6; B122, 1-1; \$802.00.
- Butler, David, B22, 1-8, 1-9; B128, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B150, south half; \$1,015.00.
- Burnham, S. W., south half of B198; south half of B216; B220, 1-1, 1-2; south half of B222; north half of B224; 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of B230; south half of B232; B238, lots 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9; \$990.00.
- Cowden, Miss L., B38, 1-4; \$60.00.
- Chapman, Miss S. A., B88, 1-9; \$95.00.
- Chapman, John, B34, 1-8, 1-9; \$200.00.
- Cuning, A., B57, 1-7; \$51.00.
- Cuning, J. W., B244, 1-6; \$75.00.
- Cahn, Isaac, B244, 1-1, 1-3, 1-4, 1-10, lot 11; \$285.00.
- Cassell, J. N., B13, 1-3, 1-5, 1-6; B15, 1-7, 1-8; \$750.00.
- Culver, M. M., B57, 1-4, 1-16, 1-18; B94, 1-11; \$316.00.
- Cropsey, A. J., B22, 1-7, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B40, 1-18, 1-44; 1-6, 1-7; B56, 1-8, 1-11; B68, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B117, 1-12, 1-15; B120, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B182, 1-9; B174, 1-1, 1-6, 1-7, 1-12; B210, 1-6; B212, 1-1, 1-6, 1-7, 1-12; B242, 1-3; \$2,428.00.
- Drum, Jacob, B55, 1-1; \$86.00.
- Davis, J. T., B226, 1-8; \$15.00.
- Day, S. F., B56, 1-1; B86, 1-1, 1-2, 1-8; B117, 1-1; \$387.00.
- Dungan, D. R., B12, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9; B16, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B216, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B242, 1-1, 1-2; \$586.75.
- Dawson, Jacob, B52, 1-1, 1-2; B54, lot 1; lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; B154, 1-10; B184, 1-2, 1-11; B214, 1-1, 1-12; \$1,325.00.
- Fox, John B., B22, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; \$151.00.
- Farnsworth, S., B5, 1-2; B9, 1-9, 1-10; \$214.00.
- Findley, William, B18, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B162, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; \$310.00.
- Guthridge, A. J., B184, 1-5; \$80.00.
- Ganter, T. S., B39, 1-14; \$185.00.
- Gerard, Joseph H., B52, 1-3; \$40.00.
- Gerard, Martin, B52, 1-4; \$39.00.
- Gerard, J. H. and M., B162, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; \$196.00.
- Gingrich, J. M., B3, 1-6; B5, 1-6; B9, 1-1, 1-12; \$445.00.
- Gere, C. H.; B55, lots 6 and 7; B98, 1-1; \$308.00.
- Gillespie, John, B38, 1-9; B70, 1-1; all of B172; \$315.00.
- Groff, L. A., B20, 1-3, 1-4, 1-9, 1-10; B54, 1-9, 1-11; B55, 1-2; B57, 1-11; B68, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9; lots 10, 11, 12, B194; lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 of B202; \$972.00.
- Hudson, E. T., B19, 1-10; \$55.00.
- Harvey, H. L., B60, 1-5; \$35.00.
- Hamer & Baird, B17, 1-10, 1-11; \$238.00.
- Harvey, Mrs. J. A., B9, 1-7 and 8; B13, 1-2; B70, 1-13; \$135.00.
- Harvey, C. H., B57, 1-9; B58, 1-10; B86, 1-10; B92, 1-7, 8, 9; B102, 1-2; all of B166; all of B200; \$793.00.
- Harding, N. S., B57, 1-5, 1-8; B98, 1-3; B184, 1-10; \$237.00.
- Hawke, Bob & Co., B55, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B56, 1-2, 1-3; \$544.00.
- Humphrey, O. N., B70, 1-2; B102, 1-12; \$169.00.

- Hochstetler, J. J., B117, 1-4; north half of B152.
- Hubbard, A., B42, 1-6; B56, 1-6; B96, 1-9; B100, 1-9; \$349.00.
- Horn, W. S., B98, 1-7; B120, 1-4, 1-9, 1-10; B122, 1-4; B213, 1-9; B214, 1-9, 10; B242, 1-7; \$861.00.
- Hyde, Thomas H., B3, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4; B5, 1-5; B9, 1-11; B15, 1-9, 1-10; B144, 1-4; B156, 1-9, 1-10; B210, 1-3, 1-8, 1-10, 1-11; B212, 1-4, 1-11; B214, 1-2, 1-7, 1-8, 1-11; B216, lots 4 and 5; B218, 1-12; \$1,391.00.
- Haxby, James, B154, 1-5, 1-6; \$150.00.
- Hull, C. J., B1, 1-2, 3, 4, 1-5, 1-6; B3, 1-5, 6, 7, 11, 12; B8, 1-11, 1-12; B9, 1-5, 20, 1-6; B21, 1-11, 1-12; B70, 1-14, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18; B174, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B186, 1-5; south half of B186; B188, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B204, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B210, 1-2; B242, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; \$2,015.00.
- Huntington, R. B., B212, 1-8; \$60.00.
- Isaacs, N. P., B38, 1-1, 1-2; \$135.00.
- Johnson, M. T., B54, 1-12; \$156.00.
- Johnson, A., B138, 1-7, 1-8; \$44.00.
- Jennings, H. S., B10, 1-3; B14, 1-8, 1-9; B56, 1-10; B58, 1-2, 1-3, 1-5, 1-7; B64, 1-7; B130, 1-6; \$581.00.
- Klepser, Jacob, B44, 1-6, 1-17; \$111.00.
- Kennedy, James, B42, 1-3; \$80.00.
- Kuhns, H. W., B176, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B188, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; \$435.00.
- Kinney, John F., B182, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5; \$330.00.
- Kennard, Levi, B178, lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1-10; B216, 1-6; B218, lots 1, 2, 5, 6; B240, lots 1 and 6; \$560.00.
- Kennard, T. P., B37, 1-3; B56, 1-4; B58, 1-8; B96, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-11; B226, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12; \$738.00.
- Linderman, S. B., south half of B21; \$315.00.
- Levi, H. L., B14, 1-7; \$45.50.
- Levi, Leopold, B44, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21; \$225.00.
- Look & Hillemyer, B39, 1-15, 1-16; \$571.00.
- Lemmon, S. W., B176, 1-7, 8, 9; \$150.00.
- Lund, Mrs. E. R., B188, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; \$140.00.
- LaMaster, M. F., B56, 1-9; B58, 1-6; \$116.00.
- LaMaster, J. E., B40, 1-7, 1-8; B41, 1-10; B96, 1-10; B98, 1-5, 1-6; B100, 1-6; B120, 1-5; B126, 1-1, 1-2; \$850.00.
- Lehmeier, J. H., B242, lots 10 and 11; \$80.00.
- Miller, W. B., B70, 1-3; \$41.00.
- Mitchell, J. L., B120, 1-7; \$141.00.
- Myer, August, B40, 1-16; \$63.00.
- Monteith, J., B34, 1-12; \$136.00.
- Michael, John, B66, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9; \$198.00.
- May, C. A., B44, 1-3; B57, 1-1, 1-2, 1-12; \$398.00.
- Morton, William, B41, 1-13; B56, 1-5, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15; \$305.00.
- Montieth, Robert, B178, 1-9; B210, 1, 4, 5, 9; \$200.00.
- Murphy, J. J., B8, 1-9, 1-10; B144, 1-1, 1-9; B146, 1-8; B154, 1-3; B184; \$369.00.
- Millard, J. W., B164, lots 7, 8, 9; B188, lots 7, 8, 9; B218, lots 7, 8, 9; \$375.00.
- Miller, Jason G., B2, 1-1, 1-2; B4, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4; B6, 1-1; B10, 1-10, 1-11;

B12, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B16, 1-1; B18, lot 10, 1-11, 1-12; B26, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B30, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-10; B34, 1-1, 1-7, 1-10; B44, 1-4, 1-5; B52, 1-8, 1-9; B57, 1-3; B58, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15; B68, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B84, 1-3, 1-4; B94, 1-10; B100, 1-1; B182, 1-8, 1-11; \$2,969.50.

McCulloch, T., B2—, 1-4; \$46.00.

McEli, H. A. M., B39, 1-3; \$203.00.

McCann, J. D., B117, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18; B130, 1-12; \$351.00.

McCann, D. J., B41, 1-18; B43, 1-7; B44, 1-8; B50, 1-7; B57, 1-10; B60, 1-1, 1-2; B96, 1-12; B116, 1-11, 1-12; B150, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B164, 1-1, 1-12; \$1,273.00.

Norton O., B20, 1-12; B28, 1-3; \$94.00.

Osborne, S., B9, 1-3, 1-4; \$83.00.

O'Hawes, Patrick, B38, 1-3; B212, lots 1, 2, 3, 5; B214, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; \$615.00.

Place, C. A., B62, 1-3; \$60.00.

Potter, L. H., B86, 1-4; \$71.00.

Presson, W. A., B90, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; \$210.00.

Peake, W. P., B58, 1-4; \$61.00.

Parker, J. D., B15, 1-3; B17, 1-12; B39, 1-13; \$396.00.

Presson, R. B., B102, 1-5, 1-6; B150, 1-1, 2, 3; \$341.00.

Palmer, A. L., B1, 1-1; B7, 1-3, 1-4; B11, 1-3, 1-4; B19, 1-3, 1-4, 1-9, 1-11, 1-12; B182, 1-10; \$582.00.

Peck, Philetas, B2, 1-3, 1-5, 1-6; B34, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4; B40, 1-13, 1-14; B41, 1-17; B55, 1-4; B57, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15; B58, 1-9; B64, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B94, 1-8, 1-9; \$1,171.50.

Peck, Miss A., B242, 1-12; B244, lots 7, 8, 9; \$210.00.

Pogue & King, B34, 1-18; \$155.00.

Ross, George R., B5, 1-3; \$62.00.

Ross, William R., B5, 1-4; \$61.00.

Ross, Robert S., B5, 1-1; B52, 1-15; \$135.00.

Ross, Reuben, Jr., B192, lots 4, 5, 6, 7; \$225.00.

Ross, George, B3, 1-1; B9, 1-2; B15, 1-6; B17, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9; B19, 1-1, 1-2; B21, 1-9; B33, 1-3; B39, 1-2, 1-11; B146, 1-7; B184, 1-3; \$1,537.00.

Robinson, J. L., B38, 1-7, 1-8; \$135.00.

Reis, Myer, B35, 1-2 and 3; \$90.00.

Rich & Oppenheimer, B54, 1-10; \$151.00.

Reed, Amos, B122, 1-5, 1-6, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; \$747.00.

Riddill, J. M., B10, 1-1, 1-2; B41, 1-15; B98, 1-2; \$232.00.

Roberts, John, B41, 1-11, 1-12; B88, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B126, 1-4, 1-5; B146, 1-11, 1-12; \$843.00.

Shay, John, B65, 1-5; \$50.00.

Stuve, Bernard, B130, 1-1; \$105.00.

Sollenberger, J., B126, 1-7; \$101.00.

Strunk, E. D., B128, 1-1; \$100.00.

Sweet, W. E. C., B58, 1-1; \$100.00.

Shumaker, Ch., B42, 1-5; \$121.00.

Sheldon, P. S., B88, 1-7, 1-8; \$145.00.

Saunders, Alvin, B192, 1-8, 1-9; \$135.00.

Smyth, F. A. H., B156, 1-7, 1-8; \$150.00.

Strunk & Gere, B130, 1-11; B144, 1-9; \$145.00.

Siegel, David, B44, 1-9; B117, 1-5; B124, 1-5; \$260.00.

Strickland, S. A., B24, 1-1, 1-2; B154, 1-7, 1-8; B156, 1-11, 1-12; \$685.00.

Sibbey, Samuel P., B42, 1-8; B120, 1-8; B122, 1-2; B130, 1-10; \$393.00.

Sweet, James, B6, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; B14, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; B22, 1-5, 1-6; B34, 1-6; B35, 1-1; B42, 1-4; B52, 1-5; B54, 1-15, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18, 1-19, 1-20, 1-21; B60, 1-3, 1-4, 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15; B62, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B66, north half; B84, 1-9, 1-10; B88, 1-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; B138, 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; B140, south half; all of B158; all of B180; \$4,074.00.

Sweet, James (trustee), lots 1, 2, 3, 4, in B8, \$145.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 in B10, \$230.00. Lots 1, 2, 3 in B12, \$115.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 in B14, \$215.00. Lots 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B16, \$400.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 in B18, \$230. Lots 7, 8, 9 in B26, \$174.00. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B28, \$396.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11 in B30, \$383.00. Lots 3 and 4 in B32, \$80.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B36, \$390.00. Lots 10, 11, 12 in B38, \$105.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B40, \$383.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in B41, \$345.00. Lots 1 and 2 in B42, \$151.00. Lots 16, 17, 18 in B52, \$143.00. Lots 13 and 14 in B54, \$95.00. Lots 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 in B55, \$353.00. Lots 16, 17, 18 in B56, \$175.00. Lots 16, 17, 18 in B58, \$220.00. Lots 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18 in B60, \$356.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 in B62, \$390.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 in B64, \$395.00. Lots 10, 11, 12 in B66, \$201.00. Lots 6 and 7 in B70, \$80.00. Lots 11 and 12 in B84, \$95.00. Lots 11, 12, 13 in B86, \$120.00. Lots 4, 5, 6 in B90, \$210.00. Lots 10, 11, 12 in B90, \$210.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12 in B92, \$588.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B94, \$397.00. Lot 12, B94, \$75.00. Lots 10, 11, 12 in B98, \$329.00. Lots 3, 10, 11 in B100, \$236.00. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 in B102, \$545.00. Lots 2, 3, 9, 10 in B116, \$243.00. Lots 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 14 in B117, \$450.00. Lots 7, 8, 9 in B122, \$318.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B124, \$803.00. Lots 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B126, \$500.00. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B128, \$520.00. Lots 2, 3, 4, 5 in B130, \$281.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B146, \$440.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B148, \$675.00. Lots 7 and 8 in B152, \$155.00. Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in B156, \$440.00. Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B160, \$615.00. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 in B162, \$390.00. Lots 10 and 11 in B164, \$125.00. Total amount was \$15,000.00.

Thayer, J. M., B13, 1-1; \$115.00.

Tipton, T. W., B15, 1-4; \$100.00.

Taffe, John, B15, 1-5; \$115.00.

Truesdell, A. M., B24, 1-4; \$120.00.

Tillinghast, G. F., B90, 1-7; \$80.00.

Thacker, W. S., B84, 1-1, 1-2; \$125.00.

Tingley, D. W., B40, 1-17; B98, 1-8; \$147.00.

Tulles, Ezra, B2, 1-11; B202, lots 10, 11, 12; \$85.00.

Taggard, John M., B6, 1-2, 1-3; B86, 1-8, 1-9, 1-14; B90, 1-8, 1-9; B102, 1-3, 1-4; B160, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; \$660.00.

Thompson, J. T., B130, 1-7, 1-8, 1-9; \$187.00.

Tucker, George P., B10, 1-12; B28, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7; B41, 1-16; B55, 1-3; B68, 1-4, 1-6; B94, 1-7; B96, 1-7, 1-8; B98, 1-4; B100, 1-2; B116, 1-1; B122, 1-3; B124, 1-6; \$1,506.50.

Vaughan, W. R., B144, 1-10, 1-11, 1-12; \$230.00.

Wells, J. C., B44, 1-13, 1-14, 1-15; \$189.00.  
 Walter, Samuel, B86, 1-5, 1-6; \$80.00.  
 Wessell, Louis, B86, 1-15; B102, 1-22; \$158.00.  
 White, A. G., B24, 1-5, 1-6; \$250.00.  
 Wagoner, A., B26, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6; \$171.00.  
 Walbaum, C. C., B102, 1-1; B148, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3; \$327.00.  
 Wilson, Miss M., B226, 1-5; \$15.00.  
 Witte, Henry, B117, 1-8, 1-9, 1-11; B120, 1-11, 1-12; B178, 1-1, 1-7, 1-8, 1-11, 1-12; B182, 1-1, 1-6, 1-7, 1-12; B186, 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-6; B210, 1-7; \$1,850.00.  
 Walker, S. H., B34, 1-13; \$125.00.  
 Zink, Nicholas, B38, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7; \$191.00.  
 Total, \$76,615.75.

## EXPENSES OF SURVEYING LINCOLN

August 21 1867. To Paid. E. R. White.....	\$ 7.50
September 19, 1867. To Paid. D. A. Sherwood.....	57.50
September 19, 1867. To Paid. Dunn, McPherson & Fullers.....	223.00
September 19, 1867. To Paid. A. B. Smith.....	172.00
September 19, 1867. To Paid. James M. Riddle.....	95.00
September 19, 1867. To Paid. Jacob Drum.....	65.00
September 19, 1867. To Paid. Charles Wake.....	42.50
September 19, 1867. To Paid. Robert Monteith.....	20.00
September 19, 1867. To Paid. W. S. Horn.....	242.50
September 19, 1867. To Paid. J. V. Holleraugh.....	8.75
September 21, 1867. To Paid. A. F. Harvey.....	401.00
October 3, 1867. To Paid. A. F. Harvey .....	97.50
September 25, 1867. To Paid. N. S. Harding .....	3.00
September 20, 1867. To Paid. W. T. Donovan.....	368.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,803.25

## EXPENSES IN ADVERTISING

June 11, 1868. To Paid. H. D. Hathaway.....	\$ 69.50
December 19, 1867. To Paid. Press Office.....	10.50
January 7, 1868. To Paid. St. A. D. Balcombe.....	20.00
September 20, 1867. To Paid. George W. Hill & Company.....	36.50
December 19, 1867. To Paid. Nebraska State Zeitung.....	8.00
November 1, 1867. To Paid. Miller & Carpenter.....	40.00
December 9, 1867. To Paid. Nebraska State Journal.....	60.75
December 31, 1867. To Paid. St. A. D. Balcombe.....	3.60
October 1, 1868. To Paid. Commonwealth.....	30.40
September 21, 1868. To Paid. Southern Nebraskian.....	16.00
January 1, 1868. To Paid. Press Office.....	4.50
April 1, 1868. To Paid. Commonwealth.....	5.10
October 6, 1867. To Paid. Chicago Tribune.....	231.35
October 1, 1867. To Paid. Omaha Herald .....	75.00

June 4, 1868. To Paid. Nebraska Advertiser .....	17.50
November 6, 1868. To Paid. H. D. Hathaway.....	15.00
October 31, 1868. To Paid. Church & Holhap.....	3.80
August 13, 1868. To Paid. Chicago Republican.....	56.00
July 25, 1868. To Paid. Redfield & Brothers.....	44.00
October 1, 1868. To Paid. W. H. H. Waters.....	12.00
November 11, 1867. To Paid. St. A. D. Balcombe.....	48.00
August 1, 1868. To Paid. Press Office.....	75.00
September 1, 1868. To Paid. St. A. D. Balcombe.....	41.90
October 27, 1868. To Paid. Thos. Norton & Company.....	80.00
July 8, 1868. To Paid. Toledo Blade.....	30.00
August 16, 1868. To Paid. Southern Nebraskian.....	21.00
March 16, 1868. To Paid. Commonwealth.....	5.85
October 9, 1867. To Paid. Press Office.....	22.10
October 6, 1867. To Paid. Platte Valley Journal.....	7.00
February 1, 1869. To Paid. Nebraska Statesman.....	56.30

---

\$1,146.05

## EXPENSES FOR AUCTION

October 2, 1867. To Paid. J. F. Fox.....	\$500.00
October 4, 1867. To Paid. J. K. Saunders.....	60.00
June 18, 1868. To Paid. Lovett & Hyde.....	100.00
September 18, 1868. To Paid. D. F. Herrick.....	60.00

---

\$720.00

## COMMISSIONERS' ACCOUNTS

David Butler. To Paid. Per diem.....	\$1,100.00
Expenses .....	1,171.50
	<hr/>
	\$2,271.50
Thomas P. Kennard. To Paid. Per diem.....	\$ 950.00
Expenses .....	888.50
	<hr/>
	\$1,838.50
John Gillespie. To Paid. Per diem.....	\$ 717.87
Expenses .....	468.78
	<hr/>
	\$1,186.65
Total .....	\$5,296.65



## CHAPTER XIII

### THE PROGRESS OF LINCOLN AND HER UTILITIES

In point of years the City of Lincoln may be said to be in her infancy, but in point of experience, growth, municipal improvements and efficient government the city compares favorably with the eastern cities settled scores of years before the commissioners located the capital here in '67. In the Agents' Bulletin, a Missouri Pacific Iron Mountain publication, of May, 1915, appears the following:

"As the capital of a young but fast growing state, Lincoln at once became the mecca for hundreds of ambitious young persons, and within a few years foundations had been laid for an enduring civic structure. Railroads backed by home and foreign capital sprang into being as if by a magician's wand, and where one already within the state's borders showed signs of hesitating about reaching across the prairies to the new metropolis, the people offered large subsidies or proceeded to build connecting lines themselves. Out of this welter of little and poorly built roads there have been evolved five great modern railroads which serve the city, forming arteries of trade which bring vast commercial territories within the reach of her business men.

"Early in her life as a city, Lincoln developed into a jobbing center, and as the state increased in population, as the railroads were extended and as agriculture multiplied, this form of commerce, linked with manufacturing in dozens of lines, became a dominant factor in her growth. As the capital the city became and remains the political center of the state. The University of Nebraska followed shortly after the selection of Lincoln as the capital and its growth has run far and fast ahead of that of the state itself, as individual wealth piled up and the belief in a strong educational system grew. The dominance of agriculture as the great business of the state early led to the founding close to the city of a giant agricultural college and school, where hundreds of boys from the farm are taught everything there is to know about their business. To insure the stability of its educational institutions a large part of the agricultural domain was early set aside as school, university and agricultural lands. From sales and rentals a fund, invested in bonds and amounting now to \$10,000,000, has been collected and there yet remain thousands of acres as the inheritance of the educational system of the state.

"The Lincoln of 1870 numbered a thousand or two souls, clustered about a combination business and residence district, that was less than a mile square. Today the city proper has an area of eight square miles, and within five miles of the postoffice 65,000 people live and labor. The one-story frame store buildings with flaring fronts of pioneer days have been replaced with modern business blocks, ranging in height to ten stories, equipped with all modern devices for com-

fort and dispatch and filled with merchandise of quality and worth. The poorly equipped cottage of the pioneer has vanished and in its place are found the bungalow, the fine residence and the palatial mansion. There are no rookeries where the shiftless and the unlucky seek refuge, no district where vice and crime are given quasi-license to flourish and to prey. The Lincoln of today enjoys a prosperity so well distributed that it is equally as well famed for the absence of Knob Hill palaces as it is for the absence of slums."

Within the area of the City of Lincoln there are approximately seventy miles of brick and asphalt paved streets, sixty-five miles of street railways, and ninety-five miles of sewerage. The water and light plants are municipally owned and commercial lighting has given the light consumer the lowest possible rates in a city of this size. The street railway system of the city is well organized and no quarter of the town is more than fifteen minutes from the "hub."

The City of Lincoln is located on a gently sloping plain, bounded on the west by the Valley of Salt Creek and on the east by the Antelope. This land characteristic is a distinct advantage to the beauty of the city, enabling the building of long level stretches of boulevards, handsome lawns and terraces, and giving freedom from bridging and tunneling, with which almost every city of size is burdened. Leading out from the city in all directions are paved boulevards, ending in well dragged and graded dirt roads, the pride of the county. These lead out to and past many parks, including amusement resorts, state institution grounds and municipal recreation places. The city itself maintains two parks, one in the west section and one in the east. The latter, Antelope Park, is comparatively new, while the former, Epworth Lake Park, is the home of the Nebraska Epworth Assembly, where for ten days each summer thousands dwell in tents and enjoy a program similar to that of a Chautauqua. West of the city is Capital Beach Park, located upon a wide lake now covering the historic salt basin. Electric Park is another amusement place, owned by private capital. The city now owns 125 acres of public park land.

The importance of Lincoln as a political center has been another factor in the upbuilding of the city. Three-fourths of the state political conventions are held in Lincoln. Not only political conventions, but numerous meetings, trade conventions and similar gatherings are almost constantly in session in the city.

Manufacturing in Lincoln has kept pace with the development of the wholesale and retail trade. There are about one hundred and forty manufacturing plants in the city, some of them upon a large scale and long established, and others just beginning. In milling and packing the city is rapidly rising to a high plane. One of the largest creamery plants in the country, the largest paint manufacturing plant west of the Mississippi River, the largest corset factory west of Chicago, the largest manufactory for copper cable lightning rods in the United States, the largest factory for the production of gasoline engines west of the Missouri River, are part of the many industries flourishing here.

One of the most prominent factors in the growth of the city has been the activity of the commercial club. This started on June 29, 1894, and was incorporated on July 18th by N. S. Harwood, A. E. Hargreaves, Charles Dauback, M. J. Waugh and M. A. Warren. For many years the club was known as the Union Commercial Club, but on May 28, 1903, the title was changed to the Lincoln Commercial Club. At present the club has over fifteen hundred members, occu-

pies a new \$150,000 building on the corner of Eleventh and P streets, and is one of the most active agents in the city. The organization reaches out after new enterprises; promotes dramatic and musical festivities; raises funds for various activities; protects merchants from fake advertisers; and passes upon charity endorsements; boosts lagging institutions; finances conventions; and in fact does everything to better the municipal condition of the city. Its record is one of success.

For the twelve months ending December 31, 1915, the City of Lincoln collected more than a million dollars in taxes, special assessments and water and light receipts. The grand total for the year was \$1,672,332. New bonds were issued during the year for \$351,628. The total bond indebtedness of the city at this time was \$1,646,799.08.

Lincoln's building record for 1915 surpassed all previous records. Nearly two million dollars worth of new buildings were put up during the year, including office buildings, department stores, churches and theaters. The old Burr Block on the northeast corner of Twelfth and O streets is now being transformed into a modern ten-story office building, to be known as the Security Mutual Building. The original Burr Block was constructed in 1887 and was for many years the leading office building of the city. Twelve years ago the structure was purchased by the Security Mutual Life Insurance Company. The First National Bank Building was an important addition to Lincoln's sky-line and is described in the history of that bank. Upon the site of the old Capital Block which was built in 1874, at the corner of Tenth and O streets the new ten-story Terminal Building is being constructed. The building will be finished in 1916 and will represent an outlay of nearly a half million dollars. The new \$250,000 department store erected in 1915 by the firm of Miller & Paine is another distinct improvement to the commercial district. The new Orpheum is just completed at the corner of Twelfth and P streets. The Hardy Hardware Store, the Ganter Block, and the Bennett Block are new structures. The latter block was constructed upon the site of one of the real pioneer buildings of Lincoln, a two-story frame structure which was built forty-nine years ago by John Cadman. It was constructed almost entirely of cottonwood timber. Part of it was hauled from Nebraska City and part cut from the timber along Salt Creek. When the Burlington Railroad entered Lincoln in the spring of 1871 J. W. Mitchell was running a hotel there under the name of the Midland Pacific. For many years afterward the block was known as the Fedewa House. The addition to the Lincoln postoffice may be numbered among the latest improvements for the city, fully two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars having been appropriated by Congress for this work. Besides the municipal improvements the university has recently constructed several new buildings. These are the new dairy farm building, the Bessey Building at Thirteenth and U streets.

A new feature of the municipal government of Lincoln was established in June, 1915, and is called the legal aid department. The ordinance creating the department went into effect June 28, 1915. This and the municipal employment bureau are two new features of Lincoln's administration and came in through the efforts of Mayor C. W. Bryan. The city health department has also undergone a thorough process of reorganization. Strong efforts have been made to better the sanitary conditions of the city. The old isolation hospital south of the Country

Club golf links have been renovated. During the year 1915 there were three epidemics. Measles in the spring of the year created havoc in the public schools, 924 cases having been reported inside of four months. There were in all, during the year, 68 cases of diphtheria, 115 of scarlet fever, 105 of smallpox, 11 of tuberculosis, 960 of measles and 50 of typhoid fever. With the exception of the measles epidemic this is about an average for every year in the city. The total number of births in the city for the year reached 1,163. During the same period there were 603 deaths. The death rate runs about 11, figuring on a population of 50,000.

As late as 1911 an effort was made to remove the capital from Lincoln. The question came up owing to the fact that the liquor question was being agitated considerably in the state. The republican leaders in the county were strongly in favor of county option and this, with the fact that Lincoln had recently voted "dry," aroused the ire of the "wet" element in the state and in several hostile camps an agitation was stirred up for the removal of the capital from Lincoln. Two bills for this purpose were introduced in the Legislature, but both met the same fate—defeat. A bill providing for the removal of the capital was ordered engrossed for the third reading in the committee of the whole, but failed on first passage in the house by a vote of thirty-eight to fifty-eight. The second bill, which was of the same character, was amended in the committee of the whole, passed through several legislative formalities and finally was abandoned.

Lincoln in itself is a clean city, both morally and physically, in comparison with many other large communities of the West. The council records of April 19, 1873, contain the startling fact that N. S. Scott made a motion, seconded by L. A. Scoggin, and carried, that the city marshal be instructed to cause the hog-pen on Fourteenth between O and P streets to be summarily removed. Again on May 31, 1873, S. W. Robinson and sixty-four others petitioned that the hog-pens be removed from the city. This is the last record, official at least, of such strenuous sanitary measures having to be exercised.

#### PAVEMENT

The first paving ever done in the City of Lincoln was in 1888, although a contract had been let the previous year to H. T. Clarke and Hugh Murphy to pave the center part of the city, in the business district, from N to S on Seventh, Eighth and Ninth, and from N to Q on Tenth and Eleventh, and from N to P from Eleventh to Fourteenth, the outside streets named being included. This area was divided into two paving districts, first and second. Notwithstanding the fact the contracts were let and everything prepared to pave these streets quite a host of obstacles appeared, such as the necessity for the laying of water mains, gas pipes, sewers and car tracks before the pavement could be placed upon the streets. This necessity required so much time and money that the people became severe in their criticism of the administration, backed up in good measure by the local newspapers. The streets were not graded, ditches formed in every direction and water backed up into the business section. Government Square at times resembled a swamp and the space in front of the Capitol Hotel presented the appearance of a harbor. Persons could not cross the streets without braving the mud and water. In 1888, however, the work of paving was finished and the

sidewalk leveled to some degree of conformity. During 1888 and 1889 about eight miles of streets were paved, mostly with red cedar blocks, some with vitrified brick. Stout & Buckstaff of Lincoln manufactured the brick here.

The City of Lincoln can now boast of more than sixty-five miles of paving. There are 23.28 miles of streets paved with brick, 21.36 miles with sheet asphalt, 14.71 with asphalt concrete, and 1 mile of cedar block pavement remains although there is not much left of the blocks. Five miles of alleys are paved. The task of keeping the pavement in repair and to lay the new is an important part of the city street department's work. In 1915 the sum of \$12,788.13 was spent in repair work alone. The brick pavement laid years ago is constantly going to pieces and it is only a matter of time until it will be succeeded by new, probably asphalt.

#### SEWERAGE

Lincoln City now has almost seventy miles of sanitary and storm sewerage. The first sewers in the city were laid in the late '70s and by 1889 quite an extensive sanitary and storm sewerage system had been installed. Quite a bit of progress in this direction was made in 1888, when it was found that in order to have paved streets sewers had to be laid first. Each year several miles of sewerage are added, in 1915 6.78 miles being laid. Additions are constantly being made to the property and residence extent of the city, new streets are being laid out, and in comparison to this progress in real estate opening the system of sewerage has been extended.

#### STREET CAR LINES

The history of the street car lines in Lincoln is a history replete with bewildering details of litigation, financial contest and rivalry for the support of the public. There have been traction companies in Lincoln almost without number, seeking to gain the upper hand in the fight for the control of the electric interests of the city.

As early as July 18, 1870, the town board of Lincoln passed an ordinance ratifying articles of incorporation filed by the Lincoln Street Railway. The city voted this same company the right of way upon the streets of the city in April, 1881. On August 15, 1883, the city granted a franchise to the Capital City Street Railway Company, the articles of incorporation of this company having been filed July 31st of the same year.

The first trial of street cars took place in the city at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of Thursday, November 1, 1883. Mr. Durfee hooked a pair of small horses to car No. 4 and shouted to about a hundred small boys to climb on. This outfit started to climb the hill from the depot to the corner of O and Thirteenth streets. Two or three more trips were made that afternoon in order to test the track. Regular service began the following Monday. The eight or ten broncho ponies which supplied the motive power for the cars were kept in Fedewa's barn. The first three lines which were constructed in Lincoln were on South Tenth Street from O to South Street, on East O Street from Tenth to Twenty-seventh, and the South Fourteenth Street line which deviated through the south part of town.

On May 16, 1887, the South Lincoln Street Railway Company was incorpo-

rated by J. H. McClay, S. W. Burnham, J. M. Hoffman, H. C. Eddy, J. E. Baum, J. W. McDonald, F. J. Foss, S. H. Burnham, C. M. Branson, C. C. Hawkins and C. D. Hyatt. The Lincoln Cable Railway Company was incorporated April 25, 1887, by Thomas Sewell, John H. Ames, A. D. Kitchen, J. H. McMurtry, W. W. Wilson, John Zehrung and John J. Gillilan. The Lincoln Rapid Transit Company incorporated May 18, 1887, and built their lines the same year; this company connected Lincoln with the state hospital by way of Twelfth Street. The North Lincoln Street Railway Company was incorporated December 19, 1888, and the Standard Street Railway Company on February 20, 1889. The latter road was built to connect the Lincoln Company's line on North Twenty-seventh Street with Wesleyan University. The Capital Heights Street Railway Company was incorporated on June 20, 1887, by W. H. Harris, J. A. Rollins, A. P. Martin, V. S. Botsford, S. Sprague, M. M. Catlin, H. C. Bittenbender, and J. K. Corey. The Standard Company mentioned above afterwards consolidated with the Lincoln Electric Railway Company which was incorporated November 12, 1890. The Bethany Heights Street Railway Company was incorporated June 3, 1889, and the papers were signed by J. Z. Briscoe, Charles Hammond, E. T. Gadd, C. T. Boggs, A. Eddy, W. W. Holmes, C. C. Munson, John H. Ames, Thomas H. Hyde, A. S. Raymond, C. R. Van Duyn, W. S. Mills, Porter Hedge and H. C. Eddy. The line was built to connect the Lincoln Company's line at V and Thirty-third streets with the Christian University. At this time there were thirty-one miles of street car track in the city, with five companies doing business.

The North Lincoln Street Railway was incorporated March 6, 1889, and on October 14, 1890, opened their line for business. On November 20th the records show the incorporation of the Lincoln and West Lincoln Terminal Railway Company. On November 24th the Lincoln and Lake Park Railway Company was started with George E. Bigelow, J. H. McMurtry, K. K. Hayden, M. J. Bush, W. B. Comstock, G. A. Bush and D. L. Brace as the incorporators.

The Lincoln Street Railway Company was organized by J. D. McFarland, J. W. Deweese, C. J. Ernst, T. E. Calvert and Henry Lee. The Lincoln Electric Railway Company was organized by C. A. Clark, Joseph Sampson, J. D. McFarland, J. W. Deweese, C. J. Ernst, John C. French and W. Little. These two roads were consolidated June 15, 1891, and the articles of incorporation of the consolidated companies filed July 13th. The new organization was known as the Lincoln Street Railway Company. Other articles of incorporation record that a Lincoln Electric Railway Company was started July 11, 1891, and the incorporators were A. C. Ziemer, A. C. Ricketts, E. H. Andrus, Thomas Ryan, John K. Barr, John S. Reed. On February 16, 1892, the Lincoln City Electric Railway was ordered sold and on July 12th, same year, it was disposed of at sheriff's sale for \$51,500.

In January, 1892, the Lincoln Street Railway Company and the Lincoln Rapid Transit Company consolidated. On January 4, 1895, the Lincoln Street Railway was placed in the hands of a receiver and on December 17, 1897, was auctioned and sold for \$60,500.

On July 31, 1903, Governor Mickey drove the silver spike which marked the completion of the new track to the State University Farm.

On August 12, 1903, the Lincoln Heights Street Railway Company was incorporated by I. L. Lyman, R. J. Gaddis, C. M. Bailey, and Laura H. Weld.

On March 21, 1904, the council granted a franchise to the Omaha, Lincoln and Beatrice Railway Company.

With the beginning of the year 1905 there started a movement for a new street car company, which was to culminate several years later in the present efficient system of electric street railways in the City of Lincoln. On January 6th of this year a preliminary meeting was held to consider the question and on the 7th over fifty active business men of Lincoln organized the Citizens' Street Railway Company, incorporating on February 23, 1905. The articles of incorporation were signed by Alex Berger, W. E. Sharp, C. J. Bills, R. E. Moore, J. M. Hayes, H. O. Barber, I. M. Raymond, and L. P. Funkhouser. On February 13th the new company had an ordinance introduced asking for a franchise to the Lincoln City streets. A franchise was granted them. In April, 1906, the Lincoln Traction Company secured an injunction against the Citizens' Company in the Federal Court at Omaha to prevent the new concern from laying tracks in Lincoln. This litigation was unsuccessful and by the summer of 1906 the Citizens' Company had the Eighteenth Street line completed. During the next year they built a line east on N Street to Twenty-ninth and to Wyuka by way of S Street. They also built north on Twenty-fifth to Holdrege; west on Holdrege to the fair grounds, east on Vine to Thirty-third; south on Twelfth to South Street; and east to Nineteenth. The next year a line was started to College View and finished, and the road to University Place and Havelock begun.

The officials of the Lincoln Traction Company realized that the new Citizens' Company meant business and after endeavoring to discover some loophole through which to pierce the enemy entered into negotiations with the intent of consolidating. This agreement was made a real fact on February 15, 1909, when the two companies got together and merged, much to the benefit of the city and the people. The articles of agreement were filed the same day with the county clerk.

This settlement of the traction troubles in the city resulted in an immediate prosperity and the resultant improvement of the street car service. Lines to all suburban points are now operated, the Highland Line to College View having been opened on March 5, 1912. The latest type of car is used by the company, which is the side-door, pay-as-you-enter style, heavy type. Quick service is given upon all of the lines. The new Traction Terminal Building which is being erected on the corner of Tenth and O streets is a great improvement to the business section of Lincoln and testifies well of the prosperity of this public utility.

#### WATER, GAS AND ELECTRICITY

The city waterworks was begun in 1882 and consisted for seven years of a single well. This well was located in the park bounded by D and F, Eighth and Sixth streets. The supply from this well was about one million gallons per day. An attempt was made in 1887 to increase the supply by sinking a pipe in the center of the well, but after this had been done the water became salty in taste. The same year Joseph Burns was employed to construct a system of driven wells in Sixth Street, and connect them with the pumping station. Most of these produced salt water within a very few days. Finally it was decided to establish a well near N and the channel of the Antelope. This well was completed in July of 1889 and was very satisfactory. Water was sent for the first time through

the waterworks' pipe on April 28, 1885. This was the beginning of the present efficient waterworks system of Lincoln. The water that is now supplied to the people is sterilized and has never been the cause of an epidemic.

On June 3, 1872, the excavation was begun for the Lincoln Gas Works, and on December 14th of the same year gas was used for the first time by the people of Lincoln. The crude oil method of making the gas was used at that time, but in 1877, in February, this method was abandoned and coal used instead of the crude oil. On April 14, 1884, the Lincoln Electric Light Company was incorporated. Gas lamps for street lighting were installed in December, 1886. The privately owned concerns manufacturing the lights for the city were not exactly to the voters' taste and accordingly the council, on February 15, 1904, passed an ordinance to submit the question of municipal lighting to the voters. The election was held on April 5, 1904, and the vote was in favor of a municipally owned electric light plant. On August 22d the council, by a vote of eight to five, located the new municipal lighting plant at the Mockett or A Street well. On November 12, 1906, the Lincoln council passed a dollar gas ordinance, but on December 27th the Lincoln Gas and Electric Company secured a restraining order in the Federal Court at Omaha to prevent the city from enforcing the dollar gas rate ordinance and the 3 per cent gross earnings tax measure. The matter held fire until February 10, 1908, when the company made a compromise offer to the city in regard to the dollar gas. The terms were not acceptable to the council and on March 2d the council decided to contest the franchise of the Lincoln Gas and Electric Company. However, Mayor Brown vetoed the ordinance directing the suit against the company. The matter switched back and forth for years, nothing done to compel the company to grant the needed decrease in rates. Not until the summer of 1915 was the contest brought to a close and the city was successful. The people are now able to get gas and electricity at a price approaching that of other well regulated commonwealths. The Lincoln Traction Company also supplied electricity to consumers in the city.

The Lincoln Heat, Light and Power Company was incorporated July 1, 1902, by John H. Humpe, Paul F. Clark, W. H. Dorgan, Charles S. Allen and C. H. Morrill. The Citizens' Gas and Power Company was incorporated June 6, 1908, by A. L. Johnson, E. S. Kirtland, W. A. Taylor, G. W. Isham, Charles G. Anderson and W. A. Taylor.

#### TELEPHONES

On November 22, 1879, the Lincoln Telephone Exchange was organized with a capital stock of \$10,000. On June 11, 1882, the first successful telephone connection was made between Lincoln and the City of Omaha. By 1889 615 instruments were in use in Lincoln and good connection was had with fifty-seven towns in Nebraska and sixty-six towns in Iowa. Each year the company grew and more people used 'phones, until in 1900 the city apparently was ready to admit a competing company. The Western Independent Long Distance Telephone Company of Plattsmouth made application to enter Lincoln, construct their lines and, in fact, do business here, and on May 28th, 1900, the city council passed an ordinance to permit them to do so. However, on June 2d Mayor Winnett vetoed the ordinance as passed by the council. On March 9, the same year, the city granted a



franchise to the Western Union Independent Telephone Company. On March 26, 1903, the Lincoln Telephone made connections with the Fairbury and Plattsmouth corporations. It was in this year that the Lincoln Telephone Company began to install the automatic telephone system in the city. On September 2, 1905, the Lincoln company made contracts with the independent companies in Lancaster and Gage counties, a business agreement to forestall collisions. On January 2, 1909, the Lincoln Telephone was reorganized and incorporated as the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Company; the capital stock of the new corporation thus formed was \$2,000,000. On January 22, 1912, the company was merged with the Bell Telephone Company.

#### TELEGRAPH COMPANIES

The first line of the B. & M. Telegraph Company was completed to Lincoln on Sunday evening, June 5, 1870, and the first message was sent by the Nebraska State Journal to Omaha and Plattsmouth newspapers. A man was sent from Omaha by stage to take charge of the new office at Lincoln. R. H. Oakley, of the firm of Oakley & Owen, was the only resident of Lincoln who understood telegraphy and he had the honor of sending the first message. The new man from Omaha emerged the morning after his arrival in a drunken condition, consequently lost his job. Oakley was persuaded to take charge of the office until another man could be secured. The telegraph line had been rushed through fifty days before the railroad owing to the fact that a public sale of lots was to begin on the following Wednesday in the Capital City. The office of the company was installed in the old Scoggin row. There was one continuous wire from Plattsmouth to Lincoln, the only station between being that of Ashland, Saunders County.

As the B. & M. Railroad was extended through the state the telegraph kept pace with it and in October, 1871, there were 128 miles of line in operation, from Plattsmouth to a point on Blue River near where Sutton is now located, then called School Creek. There were ten offices. By the close of 1871 there were 191 miles of lines. In the year 1883 the business was merged with that of the Western Union Telegraph Company, which company now operates in Lincoln, giving this city connection with the entire world.

The Pacific Mutual, later the Postal Telegraph Cable Company, was started in Lincoln in 1885 and still remains.

#### EARLY EXPRESS COMPANIES

When the City of Lincoln was settled and started upon its life the express business of this part of the country was under the control of the Wells-Fargo Express Company, with headquarters at San Francisco. The company established an office in Lincoln in the early part of 1868, with Austin Humphrey as agent. He conducted the business in one corner of the Humphrey Brothers' Hardware Store, in the old frame building which stood on the northwest corner of Ninth and O streets. A few years later, the business having grown to a large extent, W. H. Wallace was sent here to establish a regular office, which he did on Ninth Street, between O and P. A wagon was added to the outfit and a clerk, in the person of

Morris Turner. In the summer of 1875 the Union Pacific Railroad Company decided to handle the express business connected with its line. This reason, along with others such as the grasshoppers and distance from the main office, caused the Wells-Fargo to withdraw from Lincoln on July 1, 1875. Immediately business was begun by the accredited Union Pacific Express Company on the Union Pacific Railroad. The American Express Company, then operating on the C. B. & Q., took the B. & M.; the United States Express Company, operating on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and Kansas City & Council Bluffs, took the Midland Pacific from Brownville to Seward and the A. & N. from Atchison to Lincoln. The American Company took the office and fixtures, with the agent, of the Wells-Fargo Company and the United States Company occupied a frame building on Tenth Street, back of the First National Bank, with Doctor McKay as agent. This was in a frame building which had formerly stood on the corner and opened as a grocery by Thomas Sewell. In November, 1875, J. S. Atwood having extended the Union Block on O Street to the alley between Tenth and Eleventh, the American Express moved its offices to the room next the alley, the agent living in rooms above. In 1880 the United States Company, after a contest with other companies, and the Union Pacific being completed to Lincoln, retired from the field west of Omaha. Early in 1886 the Missouri Pacific came to Lincoln with the Pacific Express Company. In the fall of the same year the Elkhorn Line came in with the Wells-Fargo in connection with the American Express.

#### LINCOLN POLICE FORCE

Very shortly after the location of the City of Lincoln the citizens were given the protection of a police force, small it is true, but sufficiently able to attend to the needs of the community. The city council records of May 6, 1871, state that D. A. Sherwood's room was rented for one quarter at \$15 per month for use as a jail. C. H. Street and R. E. Moore were police judges, and A. E. Hastings was marshal. F. E. Smith was appointed assistant marshal, and M. Donley, W. Wilcox, and Charles Keith, policemen. Keith had charge of the B. & M. Depot. On May 20th the marshal was authorized to take supervision of all trains going to Nebraska City. Until the trouble arose between a Lincoln police judge and the city council, which resulted in the jailing of the latter and the subsequent hearing of the case before the United States Supreme Court, many instances of dishonesty had occurred in the force. In many respects, the better class of citizens of Lincoln had a great deal to contend with on account of the lawless class of men who infested this state, as they do every border or frontier. The character of the department was literally "cleansed with fire" and since has maintained a reputation for efficiency and strength.

#### LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT

The first volunteer fire company was organized in 1875, and was named the Phoenix Hook and Ladder Company. Prior to this, 1872, the city had felt the need of better fire protection and the council, on March 2, 1872, ordered a sale of lots in a certain part of Lincoln in order to raise the sum of \$1,000. The site

was to be used for an engine house and the money to purchase a Silsby Steam Fire Engine. This engine was bought and named the W. F. Chapin, the latter being mayor of the city at that time. Two hose carts and 1,000 feet of rubber hose were purchased at the same time and Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1 was organized, S. S. Hull being elected engineer. The company had a roster of fifty men. In 1880 the department was again increased and a second Silsby steamer was purchased. No changes were made until 1882 when the hose company was disbanded, the hook and ladder company having disbanded in 1879. Two new hose companies were organized, known as the Merchants Hose Company No. 1 and the Fitzgerald Hose Company No. 2. The Fitzgerald team won national reputation, competing with all comers at New Orleans in 1886. On January 4, 1886, the department was reorganized and five full-paid men appointed and a two-horse, four-wheel hose carriage purchased and put into service. In January, 1887, the Merchants' and the Fitzgerald Hose companies were disbanded, thus ending the life of the volunteer fire department system in Lincoln. In January, 1887, the department was reorganized again and placed upon a solid financial basis.

Since this time, following the gradual growth of the city the fire department has been equipped with the latest appliances for their work. Even yet it is the general opinion that the department is woefully short on modern machines, especially so within the last few years, during the course of which tall buildings and greater area has come to the city. The main engine house is located at Tenth and Q streets, where the motor ladder truck, hose wagon and steam engine is kept. Branch stations are now located at the following places: hook and ladder company, No. 1, Tenth and Q; hose company, No. 1, Tenth and Q; engine company, No. 2, 2300 O; hook and ladder company, No. 2, 2300 O; hook and ladder company, No. 3, 1225 F; hose company No. 3, 1225 F; hose company No. 4, 844 North Twenty-seventh.

## RECORD OF THE YEAR 1915 IN LINCOLN

	—1915—	—1914—	—1913—	—1912—
Lincoln bank clearings.....	\$ 119,043,782	\$ 109,267,345	\$ 99,824,041	\$89,301,224
Lincoln bank deposits.....	\$ 12,242,884	\$ 10,968,407	\$ 11,088,111	\$10,187,102
Bank loans and discounts.....	\$ 9,636,697	\$ 8,626,577	\$ 8,584,438	\$ 8,206,553
Suburban bank deposits.....	\$ 752,116	\$ 542,528	.....	.....
Postoffice gross receipts.....	\$ 465,328	\$ 451,691	\$ 403,390	\$ 381,704
Postoffice stamp sales.....	\$ 384,851	\$ 383,575	\$ 342,382	\$ 318,001
Postal money orders.....	\$ 3,834,193	\$ 3,485,633	\$ 3,472,390	\$ 3,770,663
Money order transactions.....	\$ 321,951	\$ 314,822	\$ 295,676	.....
Postal bank deposits.....	\$ 22,617	\$ 23,906	\$ 55,000	\$ 20,724
Parcel post packages handled..	68,627	46,364	24,061	.....
Postal cancellations .....	15,296,000	15,141,000	13,957,900	.....
City taxes collected.....	\$ 390,199	\$ 390,905	\$ 375,403	\$ 362,364
City bonded debt.....	\$ 1,646,799	\$ 1,502,711	\$ 1,370,900	\$ 1,004,500
Total city construction.....	\$ 396,866	\$ 387,447	\$ 421,207	\$ 334,998
City water pumped (gallons)..	1,129,419,472	1,300,200,000	1,138,570,000	.....
Water department collections..	\$ 155,960	\$ 144,690	\$ 141,037	\$ 108,307
Miles new water mains.....	5.52	4.02	5	4.34
Cost new water mains.....	\$ 19,216	\$ 17,000	\$ 25,152	\$ 27,587
Streets paved (feet).....	24,201	39,242	39,389	23,760
Cost of paving.....	\$ 200,897	\$ 299,566	\$ 302,383	\$ 208,603
Feet of sanitary sewers.....	37,807	6,154	15,322	6,124

	—1915—		—1914—		—1913—		—1912—
Cost of sanitary sewers.....\$	22,949	\$	4,126	\$	8,896	\$	6,472
Storm sewers (feet).....	7,524		3,153		4,118		9,977
Cost of storm sewers.....\$	53,319	\$	3,199	\$	6,956	\$	13,001
Miles of sidewalk laid.....	11.31		11.29		8.33		9.64
Cost of sidewalks.....\$	32,859	\$	23,000	\$	23,704	\$	27,589
School taxes collected.....\$	459,716	\$	503,758	\$	396,721	\$	332,476
Lincoln fire loss.....\$	185,208	\$	63,152	\$	63,947	\$	109,283
Births in city.....	1,163		1,192		1,129		1,152
Deaths in city.....	603		556		627		565
Received by county treasurer..\$	1,344,473	\$	1,256,339	\$	1,136,385	\$	1,023,949
Balance in county treasury...\$	333,970	\$	284,712	\$	302,725	\$	243,113
Real estate transfers.....\$	6,569,958	\$	6,877,311	\$	8,041,006	\$	7,707,497
Mortgages filed .....	4,782,196	\$	4,531,399	\$	4,990,639	\$	4,437,782
Mortgages released .....	3,421,626	\$	2,987,726	\$	3,163,145	\$	3,295,102
Cash received by district clerk..\$	121,807	\$	107,828	\$	120,340	\$	125,350
Cash paid out by district clerk..\$	118,833	\$	100,947	\$	120,287	\$	135,806
Marriage licenses .....	995		920		976		1,071
Divorces .....	213		196		227		158
Lincoln building permits issued..	562		459		491		495
Lincoln buildings, cost.....\$	1,700,000	\$	1,006,187	\$	1,078,350	\$	1,185,135
Suburban buildings .....	278,500	\$	224,500	\$	257,250	\$	388,500
*City, public and suburban bldgs.\$	2,484,500	\$	1,460,000	\$	2,048,600	\$	1,573,635
Commercial club membership..	1,504		1,478		1,700		1,721
City Y. M. C. A. members.....	1,375		1,474		1,308		1,900
City Y. W. C. A. members.....	2,060		1,130		1,460		1,618
State fair attendance.....	180,713		134,539		127,186		166,964
State university students.....	4,625		3,807		3,752		3,596
High school attendance.....	1,250		1,115		1,054		1,021
Grade school attendance.....	7,644		7,542		7,295		7,060
Nebraska Wesleyan enrollment.	624		595		578		.....
Union College enrollment.....	327		315		309		.....
Cotner University enrollment..	300		250		200		.....

\*Estimated as to public buildings.

## CHAPTER XIV

### GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN

On April 7, 1868, after reading a petition signed by a majority of the citizens of Lincoln, the board of county commissioners ordered "that the Town of Lincoln be declared a body corporate and that the powers and privileges be granted them, as by the statute in such cases made and provided." The following men were appointed trustees of the new corporation: L. A. Scoggins, B. F. Cozad, Doctor Potter, W. W. Carder and A. L. Palmer. The first election was held May 18, 1868, at which time sixty votes were cast. H. S. Jennings, S. B. Linderman, H. D. Gilbert, J. J. Van Dyke and D. W. Tingley were elected trustees. This first organization of the town was not effective; at least, it was not maintained.

In the next year a petition of incorporation was circulated and was signed by 189 of the qualified voters of the town. This was presented to the commissioners and the latter body, on April 7, 1869, incorporated Lincoln for the second time. The corporate limits were made to include section 26, the west half of section 25, the southwest quarter of section 24, and the south half of section 23, in town 10 north, range 6 east. H. S. Jennings, S. B. Linderman, H. D. Gilbert, J. L. McConnell and D. W. Tingley were named as trustees and Seth Robinson, A. J. Cropsey and J. N. Townley were appointed judges of election.

The first election under this latter organization was held May 3, 1869. The following were elected trustees: H. D. Gilbert, C. H. Gere, William Rowe, Philetus Peck and J. L. McConnell. The board chose H. D. Gilbert, chairman; J. R. DeLand, clerk; and Nelson C. Brock, treasurer.

In 1870 the town trustees elected were: C. N. Baird, D. S. Smith, D. A. Sherwood, C. H. Gere and H. J. Walsh. C. H. Gere was named as chairman of the board, R. O. Phillips was chosen clerk, and N. C. Brock retained the office of treasurer.

#### CITY ORGANIZATION

On March 18, 1871, the town was organized as a city of the second class, under a charter. The first election occurred on April 3, 1871, and the following officers were chosen: W. F. Chapin, mayor; C. H. Street and R. E. Moore, police judges; A. E. Hastings, marshal; T. F. L. Catlin, clerk; G. W. Ballentine, treasurer; L. A. Scoggin, C. C. Burr, D. A. Sherwood, J. M. Creamer, J. J. Gosper, J. L. McConnell, councilmen; and T. T. Murphy, city engineer.

## FURTHER ELECTIONS

The result of the elections, that is, the regular city elections, from this time until the year 1915, with the names of the candidates and the vote received by each, is given in the following paragraphs:

Election of April, 1872. For the office of mayor: E. E. Brown received 705 votes; scattering, 6. For treasurer: W. A. Coleman received 444 votes, and J. N. Eckman, 307. For marshal: John McManigal, 399 votes; W. J. Cooper, 345. For clerk: T. L. Catlin received 706 votes; scattering, 5. For police judge: R. E. Moore, 373; A. J. Dewey, 309. For cemetery trustee: J. C. Stire, 682; D. A. Sherwood, 376. Councilmen, first ward: J. R. Fairbanks, 119; A. M. McCandliss, 76. Second ward: William McLaughlin, 142; J. M. Creamer, 121. Third ward: S. G. Owens, 251.

Election of April 1, 1873. For mayor: R. D. Silver, 525; W. T. Chapin, 405. For police judge: L. A. Groff, 533; A. M. McCandliss, 358. For marshal: B. Ringer, 511; John McManigal, 423. For clerk: R. P. Beecher, 402; R. N. Vedder, 530. For treasurer: W. A. Coleman, 480, W. A. Sharrar, 459. For engineer: W. T. Hull, 417; T. J. Atwood, 475; J. M. Bradford, 7. For cemetery trustee: I. Putnam, 518. For councilmen, first ward: L. A. Scoggin, 159; D. W. Scott, 98. Second ward: J. M. Creamer, 166; T. P. Quick, 184. Third ward: N. S. Scott, 220; J. Oppenheimer, 82. R. N. Vedder resigned the position of clerk in September and E. P. Roggen was appointed to fill the vacancy. G. B. Skinner was made street commissioner and fire warden and T. P. Quick chief engineer of the fire department. S. W. Robinson was the city physician.

Election of April 11, 1874. For mayor: L. W. Little, 496; R. D. Silver, 472. For clerk: Edward P. Roggen, 548; Charles A. Hasbrouck, 413. For treasurer: William A. Sharrar, 565; Max Rich, 405. For marshal: Brad Ringer, 486; P. H. Cooper, 486; the latter received the office. For police judge: J. N. Foxworthy, 500; C. M. Parker, 448. For engineer: A. Roberts, 509; Thomas Atwood, 448. For cemetery trustee: J. J. Turner, 503; S. W. Robinson, 464. For councilmen, first ward: John Eaton, 135; M. J. Bohanan, 123. Second ward: William McLaughlin, 191; D. B. Alexander, 157. Third ward: W. P. Phillips, 207; W. T. Donovan, 149.

Election of April 6, 1875. For mayor: Amasa Cobb, 600; N. C. Brock, 392. For clerk: Robert W. Charters, 529; Charles T. Boggs, 446. For treasurer: B. F. Fisher, 659; J. C. Ford, 344. For marshal: P. H. Cooper, 543; C. E. Cox, 451. For police judge: R. W. Taylor, 519; L. C. Burr, 472. For engineer: Artemas Roberts, 520; Thomas Atwood, 466. For cemetery trustee: P. Peck, 507; W. T. Donovan, 491. For members of the city council, first ward: J. C. Sedwith, 155; J. R. Fairbanks, 154; H. C. Smith, 121, S. P. Lindley, 102. Second ward: Fred W. Krone, 228; P. J. Grant, 85. Third ward: O. Kingman, 200; H. O. Griggs, 156.

Election of April 4, 1876. For mayor: R. D. Silver, 571; J. W. Hartley, 464. For clerk: R. W. Charters, 450; George V. Kent, 560; J. H. Hebard, 11; R. N. Vedder, 1. For marshal: P. H. Cooper, 541; Charles E. Cox, 497. For treasurer: George W. Pallentine, 443; James McConnell, 595. For police judge: R. W. Taylor, 482; John McLean, 559. For engineer: James P. Walton, 1,033. For cemetery trustee: Austin Humphrey, 459; Israel Putnam, 582. For councilmen,

first ward: J. R. Fairbank, 101; John Monteith, 193. Second ward: L. W. Billingsley, 250; C. B. Beach, 107. Third ward: C. M. Leighton, 260; E. A. Morgan, 231; R. J. Williams, 117; J. D. Monell, 138.

Election of April 3, 1877. For mayor: J. M. Burks, 519; H. W. Hardy, 617; George V. Forbes, 1. For clerk: H. P. Finigan, 384; R. C. Manley, 710; Abner Rush, 38; George V. Kent, 3. For treasurer: A. H. Waitt, 482; James McConnell, 635; J. N. T. Jones, 8; Paren England, 1. For marshal: Samuel McCord, 493; Thomas Carr, 566; T. N. Shepherd, 63; M. Graham, 1; L. J. Byer, 2. For police judge: R. W. Taylor, 455; J. S. Dales, 628; J. L. Brown, 41. For engineer: E. J. Cartlege, 485; J. P. Walton, 649. For cemetery trustee: W. T. Donovan, 429; J. J. Turner, 675; D. Kinney, 28. For councilmen, first ward: James Ledwith, 179; D. A. Gilbert, 159; L. A. Scoggin, 6. Second ward: Rufus Yard, 191; William McLaughlin, 189. Third ward: J. K. Honeywell, 205; R. J. Williams, 131; E. A. Morgan, 1.

Election of April 2, 1878. For mayor: H. W. Hardy, 442; John H. Ames, 408; Rufus Yard, 383. For police judge: J. Stuart Dales, 599; J. H. Foxworthy, 319; L. C. Pace, 309. For treasurer, James McConnell, 543; Fred Smith, 297; S. C. Elliott, 389. For clerk: W. F. Jacobs, 622; J. Dan Lauer, 323; C. H. Tanner, 273; J. L. McConnell, 1. For marshal: Thomas Carr, 548; P. H. Cooper, 218; G. B. Skinner, 456. For cemetery trustee: A. M. Davis, 568; W. T. Donovan, 294; J. J. Turner, 303. For engineer: J. P. Walton, 572; J. J. Butler, 289; N. S. Scott, 359. For councilmen, first ward: S. S. Ronce, 99; J. H. Dailey, 172; J. M. Burks, 111. Second ward: H. P. Lau, 187; R. P. R. Millar, 203. Third ward: Jerry Ford, 187; Austin Humphrey, 189; D. Baum, 60.

Election of April 1, 1879. For mayor: S. B. Gale, 880; Rufus Yard, 478. For clerk: Myron Nelson, 806; R. W. Jacobs, 551. For treasurer: D. B. Cropsey, 871; A. M. Davis, 490. For marshal: I. Lyman, 764; G. B. Skinner, 596. For engineer: E. J. Cartlege, 841; J. P. Walton, 517. For cemetery trustee: Israel Putnam, 887; L. M. Rhodes, 468. For councilmen, first ward: Ed A. Church, 165; D. A. Gilbert, 84; James Ledwith, 175. Second ward: John B. Wright, 302; J. E. Farmer, 118. Third ward: J. K. Honeywell, 286; L. W. Little, 217; W. H. B. Stout, 1.

Election of April 6, 1880. For mayor: John B. Wright, 798; L. W. Little, 317; R. D. Silver, 1. For police judge: J. S. Dales, 801; J. H. Foxworthy, 308. For treasurer: D. B. Cropsey, 1,115. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 836; J. B. Dawson, 279. For cemetery trustee: J. J. Turner, 844; Joe Hodges, 1. For engineer: J. P. Walton, 1,105; N. S. Scott, 2. For councilmen, first ward: Joseph Hunter, 260; R. Grimes, 270; James Ledwith, 70; C. C. Munson, 67. Second ward: F. W. Krone, 275; J. L. Caldwell, 274; V. E. Farmer, 87; P. J. Mosier, 83. Third ward: H. J. Walsh, 295; John Doolittle, 304; O. N. Humphrey, 105; F. E. Newton, 108.

Election of April 5, 1881. For mayor: John B. Wright, 854; O. P. Mason, 543. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 1,397. For treasurer: A. C. Cass, 946; C. J. Ernst, 446; W. W. English, 1. For engineer: N. S. Scott, 1,400. For cemetery trustee: L. J. Byer, 1,389; A. M. Davis (vacancy), 1,399; E. Lawson, 1; Fuller, 1. For councilmen, first ward: C. C. Munson, 362; L. Burnwood, 46; James Ledwith, N. C. Brock and S. B. Linderman, each one vote. Second ward: S. B. Linderman, 459; Jacob North, 1. Third ward: J. H. Harley, 498; D. A. Gil-

bert, 4. The question of voting the Lincoln City Street Railway Company the right of way over north and south streets from Seventh to Seventeenth and on east and west streets from A to R was carried by 841 votes to 405.

Election of April 4, 1882. For mayor: John Doolittle, 1,030; J. W. Winger, 875. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 1,899; Charles Hovey, 1. For treasurer: A. C. Cass, 1,896; Ed Keifer, 1; W. W. English, 1. For police judge: B. F. Cobb, 985; M. Montgomery, 911; C. H. Hohman, 1; J. C. Johnston, 1; J. S. Dales 1. For engineer: J. P. Walton, 1,067; N. S. Scott, 835. For cemetery trustee: A. M. Davis, 1,888; H. F. Downs, 8; James Aldred, 1. For councilmen, first ward: H. Shaberg, 317; R. Grimes, 311. Second ward: Fred Krone, 350; M. L. Easterday, 196. Third ward: C. L. Baum, 371; W. J. Cooper, 324.

Election of April 3, 1883. For mayor: R. E. Moore, 986; A. J. Sawyer, 718; John B. Wright, 1. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 1,181; E. A. Cooley, 518. For treasurer: John T. Jones, 1,104; Ed Cagney, 598. For cemetery trustee: Lewis Gregory, 1,197; H. M. Harris, 519. For councilmen, first ward: W. C. Lane, 305; George F. Bowers, 234. Second ward: S. B. Linderman, 290; J. D. Calhoun, 124. Third ward: Charles West, 258; M. R. Davey, 190. Fourth ward: W. J. Cooper, 205; J. H. Harley, 181; P. H. Cooper, 119; H. S. Gordon, 44.

Election of April 1, 1884. For police judge: B. F. Cobb, 751; M. Montgomery, 799. For cemetery trustee: H. J. Walsh, 876. For councilmen, first ward: N. C. Brock, 249; O. P. Dinges, 67. Second ward: H. P. Lau, 258; J. Helmkamp, 97. Third ward: J. W. Winger, 260; L. J. Byer, 259. Fourth ward: J. R. Webster, 183; H. W. Hardy, 143; J. A. Tomson, 45.

Election of April 7, 1885. For mayor: C. C. Burr, 1,115; John Fitzgerald, 1,085; H. W. Hardy, 247. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 1,333; C. J. Heffley, 870; H. C. Bittenbender, 192; C. W. Heffley, 3. For treasurer: John T. Jones, 1,402; H. S. Gordon, 860; H. C. Bittenbender, 38; J. N. Dowden, 1. For cemetery trustee: A. M. Davis, 1,563; J. M. Burks, 878. For councilmen, first ward: James Dailey, 359; H. P. Naill, 218; O. P. Dinges, 37. Second ward: L. W. Billingsley, 305; J. D. Calhoun, 193; V. E. Farmer, 50; Jacob North, 1. Third ward: A. E. Hargreaves (long term), 395; H. H. Dean (short term), 348; J. J. Butler (long term), 181; James Ledwith (short term), 193; D. B. Howard (long term), 120; C. G. Bullock (short term), 107; C. West (long term), 1. Fourth ward: W. J. Cooper, 322; C. C. Munson, 204. Upon the question of granting right of way to Lincoln Street Railway Company and permission to "construct, maintain and operate a street railway with suitable turnouts, connections and turntables in the City of Lincoln over and across, in and along" the streets north and south from First to Twenty-seventh and east and west from A to W, also Washington, Wood, Pine, Rose, Peach, Plum and South streets, Grand Avenue and University Place, the vote was in favor of the franchise by 2,217 to 19.

This election of 1885 had an unpleasant aftermath. The votes were counted on the 9th of April and on the evening of the 10th the council met to consider a notice of protest by John Fitzgerald who had received 1,085 votes for the office of mayor to C. C. Burr's 1,115 and H. W. Hardy's 247. The attorneys for Fitzgerald were Whedon, Sawyer & Snell and they objected to the jurisdiction of the council to hear and determine the contest. On motion of Billingsley and Webster the objection was sustained and the mayor and clerk were ordered to issue certificates to candidates having a majority on the face of the returns.



Attorney Whedon gave notice that he would apply to the supreme court for a perpetual injunction to restrain those officers from issuing the certificate, but the matter was dropped and nothing more done.

Election of April 6, 1886. For councilmen, first ward: N. C. Brock, 349; J. H. Miller, 161. Second ward: John Fraas, 422; J. H. Naden, 223. Third ward: H. H. Dean, 453; C. G. Bullock, 196; E. M. Wheeler, 193. Fourth ward: R. B. Graham, 308; C. C. Munson, 234; A. Humphrey, 119. For police judge: A. L. Parsons, 1,160; M. Montgomery, 789; H. E. George, 631; L. Eaton, 87; C. G. Bullock, 1. For cemetery trustee: Lewis Gregory, 1,724; W. L. Wilcox, 381.

Election of April 5, 1887. For mayor: E. P. Roggen, 1,478; A. J. Sawyer, 2,013; A. J. Cropsey, 428. For clerk: R. C. Manley, 2,690; C. H. Hohman, 690; J. A. Rollins, 508. For treasurer: J. T. Jones, 1,619; L. B. Truman, 1,067; J. L. Hopkins, 683; E. M. Lewis, 502; J. J. Imhoff, 2; J. J. Butler, 8. For cemetery trustee, L. J. Byer, 1,470; E. P. Child, 682; W. O. Fletcher, 1,239; W. E. Johnson, 594. For councilmen, first ward: B. Dolan, 277; J. H. Dailey, 382; O. P. Dinges, 126. Second ward: L. W. Billingsley, 285; A. H. Dorris, 230; F. G. Bohanan, 31; J. C. Saulsbrun, 1. Third ward: A. E. Hargreaves, 247; J. M. Burks, 412; James Ledwith, 192. Fourth ward: W. J. Cooper, 475; W. H. Prescott, 183; J. J. Butler, 108. Fifth ward: Granville Ensign (long term), 190; Ed Bignall (short term), 217; J. Z. Briscoe (short term), 268; S. D. Hyde (long term), 144; J. A. Buckstaff (short term), 186; Eugene Woerner (long term), 168; Robert Ryan (long term), 145. Sixth ward: F. A. Hovey, 113; B. Ringer, 40; M. L. Trester, 81; Charles Polson, 3; D. L. Brace, 1; L. C. Pace, 3; E. P. Holmes, 1; one year. L. C. Pace, 109; D. L. Brace, 58; E. P. Holmes, 76; L. F. M. Easterday, 2; F. A. Hovey, 1; two years. The proposition to give the right of way to the Rapid Transit Railway Company was carried by a vote of 2,571 to 43. The board of education was authorized by a vote of 2,708 to 11 to expend \$5,000.00 in the erection of school buildings in the year.

Election of April 3, 1888. For police judge: W. J. Houston, 2,249; H. J. Whitmore, 1,814. For cemetery trustee: A. M. Davis, 2,530; C. G. Bullock, 1,057. For councilmen, first ward: A. Halter, 450; Thomas Helan, 324; Woolsey Weyant, 119; Thomas Manley, 2. Second ward: John Fraas, 262; J. B. Johnson, 116. Third ward: H. H. Dean, 446; E. Kearne, 347. Fourth ward: R. B. Graham, 436; A. C. Ricketts, 227; John McManigal, 134. Fifth ward: Louie Meyer, 422; S. D. Hyde, 323. Sixth ward: H. M. Rice, 249; Edmund Erb, 150. The mayor and council were authorized by a vote of 2,424 to 55 to use an amount not exceeding \$100,000.00 in paving, repairing and macadamizing intersections of streets and spaces opposite alleys and to levy a tax to pay the interest and principal of the bonds. By a vote of 2,186 to 57 bonds for \$10,000.00 were authorized for constructing extensions to the water works.

Election of April 2, 1889. For mayor: R. B. Graham, 2,996; George B. Skinner, 932; George A. Fox, 739. For treasurer: Elmer B. Stephenson, 2,537; Elias Baker, 1,236; C. D. Hagerman, 952. For clerk: D. C. Van Duyn, 2,785; S. J. Kent, 1,210; Harry Schaeffer, 724. For members excise board: C. T. Daubach, 366; John Doolittle, 350; A. C. Ricketts, 100; C. C. Munson, 110; H. S. Gordon, 59; J. Z. Briscoe, 75. For cemetery trustee: A. G. Hastings, 359; J. H. Strawbridge, 100; M. G. Bohanan, 53. For councilmen, first ward: P. Hayden, 363; Thomas Heelan, 305; W. R. Williams, 242; R. A. Hawley, 43. Second

ward: John L. Doty, 206; J. C. Salsbury, 295; J. K. Robinson, 61; J. H. Nichols, 35. Third ward: Joseph Burns, 310; William McLaughlin, 337; R. W. Maxwell, 279. Fourth ward: F. A. Boehmer, 437; M. D. Welch, 234; George Foresman, 105; long term. W. J. Cooper, 478; M. R. Davey, 101; S. H. King, 173; short term. Fifth ward: H. M. Bushnell, 453; R. P. R. Millar, 263; I. N. Baker, 118. Sixth ward: L. C. Pace, 283; M. L. Easterday, 267; J. H. Craddock, 33.

Election of April 1, 1890. For paving bonds, 2,023; against paving bonds, 843. The proposition of granting a charter to the Lincoln Electric Railway Company was carried by 3,029 to 158. For police judge: W. J. Houston, 2,846; H. J. Whitmore, 1,177. For cemetery trustee: L. J. Byers, 3,084; E. H. Andrus, 918. For sewer bonds, 1,569; against sewer bonds, 966. For market house, 1,821; against market house, 866. For school proposition, 1531; against school proposition, 209. For councilmen, first ward: A. Halter, 290; R. A. Hawley, 49; Kearns, 4. Second ward: H. Vieth, 307; J. North, 103; Levi Snell, 0; McNair, 51. Third ward: Thomas Carr, 319; Joseph Burns, 380; T. B. Davis, 71. Fourth ward: T. B. Archibald, 301; George Bosselman, 267; A. C. Ricketts, 74. Fifth ward: Louie Meyer, 447; S. S. Royce, 457. Sixth ward: H. M. Rice, 391; J. K. Corey, 231. Seventh ward: G. A. Bush, 243; H. W. Orr, 251; Joseph Teeter, 150; O. M. Easterday, 139.

Election of April 7, 1891. For mayor: Austin H. Weir, 2,380; John H. Ames, 680; S. J. Alexander, 2,073. For treasurer: E. B. Stephenson, 2,660; T. H. Pratt, 925; J. C. De Putron, 317; E. A. Cooley, 1,003. For clerk: W. H. Love, 1,663; D. C. Van Duyn, 2,585; A. N. Wycoff, 505. For cemetery trustee: A. M. Davis, 2,725; L. S. Gillick, 786; John McManigal, 1,098. For excise board: E. H. Andrus, 1,191; C. J. Daubach, 449; John Doolittle, 2,237; Gran Ensign, 1,278; James Kelly, 1,583; James Kilburn, 352; J. H. Kramer, 524; Silas Schenck, 274; C. L. Smith, 336; H. J. Whitmore, 778. For councilmen, first ward: N. C. Broek, 243; W. Mickelwait, 110; J. A. O'Shee, 261. Second ward: C. B. Beach, 208; P. H. Gammel, 48; Joseph Wittman, 263. Third ward: G. B. Chapman, 479; T. L. Hall, 326. Fourth ward: F. A. Boehmer, 420; H. J. Geisler, 85; A. H. Humphrey, 373. Fifth ward: H. M. Bushnell, 430; R. P. R. Millar, 529. Sixth ward: G. K. Brown, 243; W. W. Raub, 237; R. W. Whited, 73. Seventh ward: S. Males, 64; F. C. Smith, 298; D. D. Sullivan, 37; J. H. Whitmore, 114. The school board was authorized by the vote of the people to spend \$5,000.00 or more in 1891 in the purchase of school property and erection of school buildings.

Election of April 5, 1892. For police judge: Allen, 1,686; Iiams, 182; F. R. Waters, 2,643. For attorney: N. C. Abbott, 2,568; Mack, 219; Rose, 1,637. For water commissioner: C. G. Bullock, 1,924; J. W. Percival, 2,484. For engineer: Adna Dodson, 2,741; Rawlins, 1,733. For cemetery trustee: A. G. Hastings, 2,834; Morrison, 1,544. For councilmen, first ward: A. Halter, 255; J. H. Dailey, 279; Herdman, 46; Hawley, 18. Second ward: Henry Vieth, 239; R. P. R. Millar, 210; Betz, 15. Third ward: Frank A. Graham, 495; Hall, 310; James Kilburn, 44. Fourth ward: O. W. Webster, 428; Cooper, 272; Phelps Paine, 51. Fifth ward: D. W. Moseley, 475; Calhoun, 329; Smith, 28. Sixth ward: E. L. Holyoke, 292; Bigelow, 248. Seventh ward: H. H. Myers, 285; Bigelow, 200.

Election of April 4, 1893. For mayor: R. B. Graham, 2,634; A. H. Weir, 2,776; R. A. Hawley, 247. For treasurer: E. P. Stephenson, 2,923; Leavitt, 2,281;

A. N. Wycoff, 299. For clerk: J. W. Bowen, 3,320; Jordan, 1,997; Hamilton, 240. For cemetery trustee: Guile, 2,121; Carter, 392; L. J. Byer, 2,000. For excise board: S. M. Benedict, 567; J. C. DePutron, 393; A. D. Burr, 2,418; W. B. McRoberts, 2,112; F. W. Brown, 2,714; A. E. Hargreaves, 2,394. For councilmen, first ward: Carr, 192; Carter, 18; McCargar, 179; O'Shee, 281. Second ward: Parker, 340; Wittman, 168. Third ward: R. H. Mockett, 93; Shaberg, 399; R. S. Young, 502. Fourth ward: Baird, 143; Harris, 338; Roman, 549; Stanton, 35. Fifth ward: Rippe, 86; Royce, 300; L. P. Young, 455; States, 167. Sixth ward: Woods, 390; Seybolt, 320. Seventh ward: Gable, 194; J. H. Mockett, Jr., 22; Smita, 335.

Election of April 3, 1894. For attorney: N. C. Abbott, 3,844; A. G. Wolfenbarger, 866. For police judge: W. H. Hunter, 636; Frank R. Waters, 2,796; H. J. Whitmore, 1,574. For water commissioner: William Crombia, 621; J. W. Percival, 2,222; S. S. Royce, 1,797. For engineer: Adna Dobson, 4,270. For cemetery trustee: S. M. Benedict, 621; J. H. Fawell, 2,888; Wheatley Mickelwait, 507; M. D. Tiffany, 787. For councilmen, first ward: John Currie, 15; James H. Dailey, 329; George W. Denham, 200. Second ward: William Lawlor, 419; James J. Walters, 133. Third ward: John E. Miller, 333; Frank A. Graham, 630. Fourth ward: Joseph H. Bigger, 171; L. H. Eldridge, 129; S. H. King, 36; O. W. Webster, 521. Fifth ward: John Fifer, 32; Paul H. Holm, 115; Barr Parker, 720. Sixth ward: Herbert B. Sawyer, 444; Louis F. Zeiger, 170. Seventh ward: H. H. Meyers, 306; Adam E. Spurck, 236; M. L. Trester, 38.

Election of April 2, 1895. For mayor: Broadly, 2,436; F. A. Graham, 3,707; Jones, 168. For clerk: J. W. Bowen, 4,891; Chamberlain, 1,124; Hedges, 245. For treasurer: M. I. Aitken, 4,485; J. C. DePutron, 232; Pomerene, 1,486. For excise board: Cochrane, 2,453; R. S. Grimes, 3,440; A. E. Hargreaves, 2,415; M. L. Trester, 403; H. B. Vaill, 3,317; Wilson, 227. For cemetery trustees: Guile, 643; John McManigal, 1,264; R. H. Oakley, 4,107. For councilmen, first ward: Thomas W. Draper, 377; James O'Shee, 270. Second ward: Hans Dierks, 268; Phillip Gammel, 20; James D. Parker, 362. Third ward: John H. Mockett, Sr., 101; Harry M. Shaeffer, 383; Richard S. Young, 710. Fourth ward: Harry Fletcher, 172; E. S. Hawley, 269; Alex H. Hutton, 788. Fifth ward: John Geisler, 473; Stephen B. Hyde, 420; William A. Klock, 309. Sixth ward: Charles S. Jones, 251; Edwin R. Guthrie, 381. Seventh ward: H. D. Evan, 322; William T. Moore, 306; R. W. Maxwell, 21.

Election of April 7, 1896. For attorney: N. C. Abbott, 3,017. For police judge: William F. Schwind, 1,767; Frank R. Waters, 2,068. For water commissioner: S. J. Byer, 2,313; William H. Hargreaves, 1,501. For engineer: Ferdinand Bonstedt, 3,392. For cemetery trustee: Charles B. Gregory, 2,880; John McManigal, 838. For councilmen, first ward: R. E. Finley, 243; James M. McKinney, 204. Second ward: William Lawlor, 309; H. Wittman, 121. Third ward: Charles Spears, 596. Fourth ward: O. W. Webster, 631. Fifth ward: Hans P. Lau, 307; Barr Parker, 453. Sixth ward: W. A. Woodward, 410. Seventh ward: W. B. Comstock, 331; H. H. Meyer, 101.

Election of April 6, 1897. For mayor: Erastus E. Brown, 2,212; Frank A. Graham, 2,864. For treasurer: Martin I. Aitken, 2,877; H. W. Hardy, 2,330. For clerk: John W. Bowen, 3,135; George A. Hagensick, 2,058. For cemetery trustee: John A. Fawell, 3,107; Thomas Maloy, 1,978. For councilmen, first

ward: Thomas Heelan, Jr., 2,091; Alex W. Stewart, 2,967. Second ward: H. H. Barth, 2,962; William Schroeder, 2,090. Third ward: A. E. Hargreaves, 2,184; Hudson J. Winnett, 2,926. Fourth ward: Edwin A. Barnes, 2,883; F. B. Kimball, 2,201. Fifth ward: L. C. Chapin, 2,347; John Giesler, 2,793. Sixth ward: E. R. Guthrie, 2,996; James Welton, 2,085. Seventh ward: John H. Mockett, Jr., 3,036; Charles T. Payne, 2,029.

Election of April 5, 1898. For attorney: Joseph R. Webster, 2,592; Samuel J. Tuttle, 1,983. For police judge: W. B. Comstock, 2,567; C. S. Rainbolt, 2,055; Fred Herman, 23. For water commissioner: James Tyler, 2,548; S. S. Royce, 2,032. For engineer: Ferdinand Bonstedt, 2,704; Milton W. Ensign, 1,839. For cemetery trustee: R. H. Oakley, 2,570; Edmund Erb, 1,931. For excise board: Henry W. Brown, 2,481; J. C. Harpham, 2,459; Walter C. Fluery, 1,887; Robert Wheeler, 1,665; H. S. Alley, 20; J. C. De Putron, 208; Jacob J. Folts, 209; A. V. Herman, 119. For councilmen, first ward: Robert E. Finley, 198; Robert Malone, 248. Second ward: Charles E. Wilkinson, 212; Otto T. Erlenborn, 234. Third ward: Charles W. Spears, 404; A. E. Hargreaves, 327. Fourth ward: O. W. Webster, 493; H. H. Harvey, 329. Fifth ward: Adna Dobson, 499; John E. Miller, 393. Sixth ward: William A. Woodward, 321; Wilson E. Field, 242. Seventh ward: H. H. Meyer, 191; Charles M. Bailey, 312; I. L. Lyman, 4.

Election of April 4, 1899. For mayor: Hudson J. Winnett, 2,828; Austin H. Weir, 1,833; Carl C. Endberg, 84. For treasurer: Martin I. Aitken, 2,557; Charles H. Imhoff, 2,067. For clerk: Thomas H. Pratt, 2,756; Arthur H. Gleason, 1,837. For cemetery trustee: Charles B. Gregory, 2,688; John M. Burks, 1,875. For excise board: H. H. Barth, 2,168; George M. Bartlett, 2,659; F. W. Brown, 2,189; Samuel S. Whiting, 1,809; Edmund Erb, 167; Clarence E. Hedges, 167. For councilmen, first ward: Alex W. Stewart, 224; George Denham, 179. Second ward: William Lawlor, 214; William Schroeder, 291. Third ward: Richard S. Young, 415; Harry S. Stuff, 363. Fourth ward: A. H. Hutton, 502; E. A. Rogers, 321. Fifth ward: DeForest E. Green, 554; S. S. Royce, 335. Sixth ward: Callen Thompson, 337; William McLaughlin, 270. Seventh ward: J. H. Mockett, Jr., 296.

Election of April 3, 1900. For attorney: Edmund C. Strobe, 3,045. For police judge: W. B. Comstock, 2,926; Hugh B. Dailey, 1,135. For engineer: Adna Dobson, 2,838; John T. Ledwith, 1,219. For water commissioner: James Tyler, 2,841; S. S. Royce, 1,243. For exciseman, Henry W. Brown, 2,544; C. E. Loomis, 1,555. For cemetery trustee: John H. Fawell, 2,644; W. E. Field, 1,334. For councilmen, first ward: Melvin D. Clary, 200; Robert Malone, 209. Second ward: James Stevenson, 177; O. P. Erlenborn, 201. Third ward: Charles W. Spears, 406; Harry Stuff, 345. Fourth ward: N. A. Bacon, 477; H. W. Hardy, 210. Fifth ward: W. C. Frampton, 577; Willard Cooper, 281. Sixth ward: William I. Fryer, 369; I. E. O. Place, 220. Seventh ward: I. L. Lyman, 246; C. E. Sisler, 219.

Election of April 2, 1901. For mayor: Hudson J. Winnett, 2,756; Louis N. Went, 1,361; C. E. Hedges, 180. For treasurer: Beman C. Fox, 2,686; Floyd Seybolt, 1,393; James Kilburn, 165. For clerk: Thomas H. Pratt, 2,819; Richard A. Hawley, 1,168; O. J. Wilcox, 214. For excisemen: E. B. Finney, 2,772; Frank H. Woods, 2,757; William Ungles, 1,210; T. J. Merryman, 482; F. B. Francis, 375. For cemetery trustee: R. H. Oakley, 2,735; Lee W. Edwards,

1,130; Charles A. Taylor, 227. For councilmen, first ward: Alex W. Stewart, 236; Joseph J. Rogers, 172. Second ward: William Lawlor, 296; William Schroeder, 242. Third ward: V. G. Powell, 425; Addison Meece, 290. Fourth ward: A. H. Hutton, 537; John M. Thompson, 220. Fifth ward: William Albers, 611; Harry W. Smith, 194; A. D. Guile, 60. Sixth ward: Callen Thompson, 335; Edward A. Snyder, 195; H. L. Andrews, 28. Seventh ward: J. C. Pentzer, 272; George E. Webb, 133; J. R. Ayres, 28. The mayor and council were authorized by a vote of 2,477 to 913 to issue bonds for an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 for the construction of a lighting plant for the city of Lincoln at the Rice pumping station, to operate 300 lights in the streets, thoroughfares, parks and city buildings.

Election of April 1, 1902. For attorney: Edmund C. Strode, 3,793; James R. Burleigh, 439. For police judge: P. James Cosgrave, 3,448; Daniel Harrigan, 1,367; J. A. Drummond, 87. For engineer: George L. Campen, 3,883. For water commissioner: James Tyler, 3,787; James T. Riordan, 502. For cemetery trustee: George W. Bonnell, 3,825. For councilmen, first ward: M. D. Clary, 225; Robert Malone, 234. Second ward: C. E. Wilkenson, 327; Jacob North, 252. Third ward: George H. Moore, 486; H. F. Bishop, 521. Fourth ward: John S. Bishop, 619; W. W. Keefe, 220. Fifth ward: William C. Frampton, 636; John J. Cassidy, 410. Sixth ward: Lee J. Dunn, 470; C. Q. DeFrance, 145. Seventh ward: I. L. Lyman, 257; John M. Day, 143. The proposition to pass an ordinance prohibiting the sale of malt, spirituous, vinous and intoxicating liquors in the City of Lincoln was defeated by a vote of 2,369 to 2,304.

Election of April 13, 1903. For mayor: George A. Adams, 2,781; George E. Hibner, 1,298; C. E. Bentley, 214; George E. Bigelow, 29. For treasurer: Beman C. Fox, 3,488. For city clerk: Thomas H. Pratt, 3,180; Edwin T. Peters, 940; W. Wrege, 54. For tax commissioner: James A. Sheffield, 3,334; Frank Fritsche, 245. For excise board: Thomas H. Hoskins, 2,500; Joseph W. Wolfe, 2,468; Thomas J. Hensley, 1,432; John T. Wiesman, 1,388; T. J. Merryman, 293; J. R. Ayres, 263; C. M. Bailey, 27; George Fleishour, 25. For councilmen: first ward: Alex W. Stewart, 278; Andrew Stonestrom, 77. Second ward: William Lawlor, 292; Jacob North, 117. Third ward: J. H. Hensel, 373; Ernst Hoppe, 413. Fourth ward: A. H. Hutton, 553; Gus Tobin, 209. Fifth ward: E. H. Marshall, 721. Sixth ward: Callen Thompson, 328; Henry Gund, 260. Seventh ward: J. C. Pentzer, 259; C. Y. Long, 132. The proposition of bonds for \$65,000.00 for lighting purposes was passed by a vote of 2,539 to 1,426. The proposition of bonds for \$34,500.00 for sewer extension was passed, 1,991 to 1,941.

Election of April 5, 1904. For city attorney: Edmund C. Strode, 2,695; J. M. Day, 866. For water commissioner: James M. Deffenbaugh, 2,386; Spencer Lintner, 1,283. For engineer: George L. Campen, 2922. For police judge: P. James Cosgrave, 2,951. For cemetery trustee: James Tyler, 2,769. For councilmen, first ward: Thomas Draper, 202; Robert Malone, 259. Second ward: C. E. Wilkenson, 219; Michael Bauer, 285. Third ward: George H. Moore, 352; Horace F. Bishop, 480. Fourth ward: John S. Bishop, 418; W. B. Price, 115. Fifth ward: W. C. Frampton, 548; George W. Losey, 161. Sixth ward: L. J. Dunn, 339. Seventh ward: B. A. George, 208; Josiah S. Gabel, 77. The vote on bonds for \$65,000.00 for electric light was carried favorably by 2,678 to 771. The city park proposition was also voted on favorably, 1,333 to 900.

Election of April 4, 1905. For mayor: Alex H. Hutton, 2,493; F. W. Brown, 3,105; Frank E. Lynch, 245. For clerk: Thomas H. Pratt, 3,497; Charles A. Simmons, 2,027. For treasurer: Beman C. Fox, 3,790. For tax commissioner: James A. Sheffield, 3,583. For excise board: J. C. Harpham, 2,906; U. G. Powell, 2,766; E. A. Pegler, 2,575; N. W. Thompson, 2,581; W. F. Hunt, 249; E. F. Reddish, 248. Cemetery trustee: George W. Bonnell, 3,426.

On April 10, 1905, Alex Stewart, William Lawlor, Ernst Hoppe, A. H. Hutton, E. H. Marshall, Callen Thompson, J. C. Pentzer, the out-going council, were appointed aldermen until the special election in June.

Election of May 7, 1907. For mayor: Francis W. Brown, 2,632; Alex H. Hutton, 2,590. For treasurer: Beman C. Fox, 3,658. For clerk: Thomas H. Pratt, 2,787; Henry M. Leavitt, 2,375. For attorney: John M. Stewart, 3,685. For engineer: William Grant, 3,602. For water commissioner: James Tyler, 3,588. For tax commissioner: James A. Sheffield, 3,527. For excisemen: Julius C. Harpham, 3,240; U. G. Powell, 2,773; Merritt L. Blackburn, 2,426. For cemetery trustee: Erwin H. Barbour. For alderman (vacancy): Ray O. Castle. For councilmen, first ward: Oscar D. Herrick, 182; Henry M. Hauschild, 197. Second ward: George Schrandt, 143; Mike Bauer, 234. Third ward: Jesse Chappell, 360; Horace S. Bishop, 525. Fourth ward: John S. Leonhardt, 668. Fifth ward: Charles C. Quiggle, 916. Sixth ward: E. B. Sawyer, 682. Seventh ward: Burton A. George, 377.

Election of May 4, 1909. For mayor: Don L. Love, 3,662; Robert Malone, 3,616. For treasurer: George Dayton, 4,438; Joseph W. Bryan, 2,006. For clerk: Roscoe C. Ozman, 3,343; J. R. Day, 2,433; Barr Parker, 991. For attorney: John M. Stewart, 4,082; John R. Berry, 1,126; Ray J. Abbott, 1,297. For engineer: Adna Dobson, 5,630. For water and light commissioner: James Tyler, 3,592; Thomas P. Harrison, 2,219; James S. Devore, 712. For tax commissioner: James A. Sheffield, 5,452. For cemetery trustee: Horace S. Wiggins, 4,867. For excise board: R. D. Spelts, 2,574; J. C. Harpham, 4,454; U. G. Powell, 3,073; H. G. Gildersleeve, 1,245; L. W. Eldridge, 876. For aldermen: Thomas H. Pratt, 3,863; Howard J. Whitmore, 3,884; A. L. Candy, 3,299; William E. Hardy, 4,175; Callen Thompson, 2,723; Ray G. Fletcher, 2,227; J. C. Pentzer, 2,820; William Schroeder, 3,474; Ray O. Castle, 3,161; E. B. Sawyer, 3,037; William T. Pinney, 1,676; Ernst Hoppe, 3,456; Chalmers Bellenger, 1,567. For councilmen, first ward: Oscar D. Herrick, 310; J. S. Bowers, 218; I. L. Lyman. Second ward: J. P. Drieth, 290; W. J. Bassler, 238; Michael Bauer, 327. Third ward: Julius Deitrich, 503; Sam Orlofsky, 219; S. J. Mason, 121. Fourth ward: Dr. J. S. Leonhardt. Fifth ward: John Geisler, 242; Edward H. Schroeder, 488; L. C. Chapin, 481. Sixth ward: S. R. McKelvie, 361; Otto W. Meier, 384; Fred H. F. Kind, 277. Seventh ward: Burton A. George, 528; H. R. Williams, 332. Under the caption "Excise Rule," there were 3,631 votes cast for a "dry" Lincoln, 3,285 for a 6:30 o'clock closing hour for saloons, and 346 votes cast against both the above.

Election of May 2, 1911. For mayor, Alvin H. Armstrong, 5,136; Robert Malone, 3,421; C. R. Oyler, 303. For treasurer: George Dayton, 6,344; J. H. Gleason, 2,045. For city clerk: Roscoe C. Ozman, 5,321; Henry Bingaman, 3,220. For city attorney: Fred C. Foster, 5,636; Thomas J. Doyle, 2,844. For city engineer: Adna Dobson, 6,827. For water and light commissioner: James Tyler

5,174; J. E. Murray, 3,373. For tax commissioner: James Sheffield, 5,449; D. D. Davis, 2,483. For excise board: Harry Porter, 5,168; W. E. Enland, 4,905; E. B. Zimmerman, 3,372; A. S. Tibbetts, 3,388; Frank R. Rider, 213; Clyde J. Wright, 210. For cemetery trustee: George W. Bonnell, 6,149. Under Excise Rule, there were 4,659 "wet" votes cast and 3,994 "dry" votes. The proposition to create the office of city electrician was lost by a vote of 4,705 to 2,433. The proposition to issue \$50,000.00 in park bonds was voted on favorably, 3,970 to 3,670; but the majority was not large enough to carry. For councilmen, first ward: Oscar D. Herrick, 498; G. T. Wenninger, 175. Second ward: Adolph Lebsack, Jr., 631; Michael Bauer, 437. Third ward: Julius Dietrich, 650; William Walworth, 416. Fourth ward: J. S. Leonhardt, 757. Fifth ward: I. Yungblut, 1,205. Sixth ward: Otto W. Meier, 849; Elliott Lowe, 514. Seventh ward: J. C. Pentzer, 685; Thomas Sinclair, 475.

#### THE COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT

With the year 1912 the government of Lincoln was changed from the old form to the commission form of rule. The plan was made possible by the Banning law which had been passed by the previous Legislature, the substance of which may be summarized as follows: The new legislation provided an optional form of government for all cities of the State of Nebraska of more than 5,000 population. The cities were divided into three classes, respecting the number of councilmen. There were to be seven in Omaha, five in Lincoln and South Omaha, and three in all other cities. The councilmen were to be the only elective officials. The names of the candidates for councilmen were to go on the primary ballot without party designation and twice as many candidates should be nominated as there were places to fill. At the general election the one-half of those nominated were to be elected, also without party designation upon the ballot. The salaries were to be fixed according to the class of city. For Omaha the sum was to be \$4,500.00; for Lincoln, \$2,000.00; South Omaha, \$1,000.00; cities from 7,000 to 25,000 population, \$1,000; and cities from 5,000 to 7,000 population, \$300.00. The mayor was to receive extra pay. The office of mayor was to be filled by selection by the elected councilmen from among their number. All city officials and boards except constitutional offices were to be succeeded by the commission and all departments of the city government were to be organized and directed by the council, which should make appropriation for their maintenance and appoint officers and employees. The educational boards were to be continued, also police magistrates.

On Friday, April 19, 1912, the people of Lincoln voted on the following proposition: "Shall the City of Lincoln adopt provisions of sections 8722 to 8745, inclusive, Cobbe's Annotated Statutes of Nebraska for 1911; sections 16 to 39, inclusive; chapter 14-A, article 3, compiled statutes of 1911, called 'Commission Plan of City Government?'" There were cast for the proposition 1,982 votes and against it 1,911. The fact that the plan carried by only a majority of 71 votes does not faithfully represent the spirit of the people nor the true majority of them who wished the change. The vote was light in the first place, but the efforts put forth by the adherents of the commission government overshadowed the work of those opposed.

The first general election under this form of government was on May 6, 1913. The vote on councilmen was: Robert Malone, 2,878; William Schroeder, 4,485; Thomas J. Hensley, 4,379; Don L. Love, 3,147; Elliott Lowe, 2,955; O. J. King, 4,055; Frank C. Zehrung, 4,142; George Dayton, 5,236; Otto W. Meier, 3,033; John H. Mockett, Jr., 3,908. For excisemen: Harry Porter, 4,540; Will H. Love, 4,485; Charles Strader, 3,487; George G. Waite, 3,521; Nicholas Ress, 4,335; H. T. Folsom, 3,509. For members of charter convention: Allen W. Field, Fred D. Cornell, Ernst Hoppe, J. C. Harpham, A. S. Tibbetts, W. A. Selleck, John E. Miller, Frank M. Hall, Edwin Jeary, Morris W. Folsom, I. H. Hatfield, Wilton Van Sickle, M. I. Aitken, C. C. Quiggle, C. W. Webster. For cemetery trustee: Verne Hedge. Under Excise Rule there were 3,509 "dry" votes and 4,393 "wet." The result of this election showed that Schroeder, Hensley, King, Zehrung and Dayton were the men to first take the seats of councilmen under the new law. With the exception of King, the councilmen met accordingly and appointed F. C. Zehrung as mayor of the city. Dayton was named superintendent of the department of accounts and finances; King, superintendent of the department of public safety; Hensley, superintendent of the department of streets and public improvements; Schroeder, superintendent of the department of parks and public property. The following resolution was adopted: "Be it resolved by the council of the City of Lincoln, that

"1. It shall be the duty of the mayor and superintendent of the department of public affairs to preside over meetings of the council and he shall have charge of the legal department of the city, and all matters pertaining to unliquidated claims, rules, privileges and elections.

"2. That the superintendent of the department of accounts and finances shall be the vice president of the council and preside over its meetings in the absence of the mayor. He shall be ex-officio city treasurer without pay and he shall have charge of the accounts and finances of city on all matters pertaining to printing, taxation, and licenses and shall have charge of the office of tax commissioner, city clerk, auditor and city treasurer.

"3. That the superintendent of the department of public safety shall have charge of the police, fire and health departments and all matters pertaining thereto, including city scales, sealer of weights and measures.

"4. That the superintendent of the department of streets and public improvements shall have charge of all street work and all public improvements, additions to the city, and viaducts, and he shall have charge of the office of city engineer.

"5. That the superintendent of the department of parks and public property shall have charge of all parks, the city hall, the water office and the water and light plant."

This resolution was partially adopted in substance, but much enlarged and of greater scope, and made into a city ordinance. After the 1915 election, however, the ordinance was considerably changed and amended, making practically a new ordinance in thought.

T. H. Berg was appointed by the council to the office of city clerk. Adna Dobson was made engineer and Fred C. Foster city attorney. Dr. J. F. Spealman was named city health officer and H. Clement fire chief.

Election of May 4, 1915. For councilmen: George Dayton, 4,059; Charles W. Bryan, 3,796; William Schroder, 3,789; Thomas J. Hensley, 3,630; S. M. Melick,



2,662; Charles E. Comstock, 2,845; F. C. Zehrung, 2,378; John Wright, 3,443; Edward H. Marshall, 2,559; Joseph Burns, 1,818. Thus the council was chosen as follows: Dayton, Bryan, Schroeder, Hensley and Wright. For excisemen: Harry Porter, 4,205; Will H. Love, 3,812; Nicholas Ress, 3,651; John Bauer, 2,321; Henry J. Mohr, 1,600; P. F. Zimmer, 1,818. For cemetery trustee: George M. Porter, 2,422; Horace S. Wiggins, 2,318. For bonds for extension of Antelope Park, 3,641; against the bonds, 2,486. For a refuse disposal plant, 3,732; against the plant, 2,288. On the proposition to amend section 1 of chapter CXV of General Revised and Consolidated Ordinances of the City of Lincoln for year 1908, entitled "Sunday," there were 2,690 votes cast for amendment and 3,536 against it.

The elected members of the council met and named Charles W. Bryan mayor of Lincoln. Dayton was appointed superintendent of the department of accounts and finances; Wright, superintendent of the department of public safety; Hensley, superintendent of department of streets and public improvements; and Schroeder, superintendent of the department of parks and public property. C. Petrus Peterson was selected as city attorney. T. H. Berg was named as city clerk for the second time. Adna Dobson was given the office of city engineer. W. T. Overton was appointed street commissioner. H. H. Antles was named chief of detectives and H. Clement fire chief.

The success of the commission form of city government is yet a matter of question, due to its infancy. The new plan has, outside of the advantage of the short ballot, many features, such as the centralization of responsibility, which obviate many things hitherto considered impediments in the progress of the city. The people of the city unquestionably stand a better chance of gaining much needed improvements, and more expeditiously, than they did before, and for this reason, if no other, the new government is commendable.

.

.

## CHAPTER XV

### LINCOLN BANKS AND BANKING

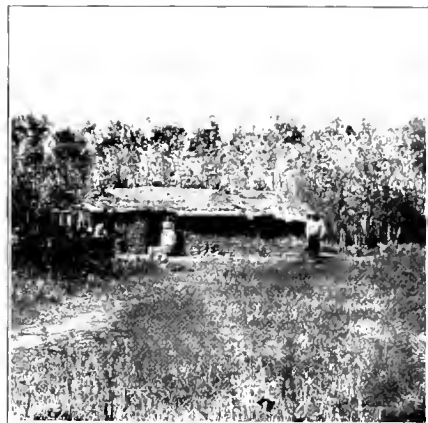
The city has made a marvelous growth in financial strength and prestige since the late '70s. Her present position of prominence is all the more honorable in consideration of the financial depression through which the banks of Lincoln passed in the '90s.

The first bank in the city was established in June, 1868, by James Sweet and N. C. Brock. Mention has been made of this before. It was organized in the southwest corner room of the Sweet Block, the first block built on the plat of Lincoln, and continued until 1871, when it was reorganized as the State Bank of Nebraska, by Samuel G. Owen, James Sweet and Nelson C. Brock. The State National Bank was authorized to do business November 16, 1871, with a capital stock of \$100,000.00. S. G. Owen was president and N. C. Brock cashier.

The First National Bank of Lincoln received its first charter to do business on February 24, 1871. The bank was the successor of a private bank which had been founded by Judge Amasa Cobb and J. F. Sudduth, the former president and the latter cashier. Among the early stockholders of the bank were: R. D. Silver, E. E. Brown, A. L. Palmer, John Cadman, J. N. Eckman, W. R. Field, Chester Schoolcraft, J. G. Miller, G. W. Cobb and W. P. Phillips. The first statement of the bank shows that the capital stock on April 22, 1871, was \$35,000.00. At that time the deposits were \$71,330.00 and the circulation of bank notes amounted to \$22,500.00. Three years after its founding John Fitzgerald and John R. Clark bought an interest in the bank. Mr. Fitzgerald became the president of the institution and Mr. Clark the cashier. J. F. Sudduth died in 1880, but no other change was made until 1889, when John R. Clark became president; D. D. Muir, cashier and C. S. Lippincott, assistant cashier. Mr. Clark was the leading spirit in the bank until his death in 1890. J. D. MacFarland assumed the presidency at that time. In 1891 the bank increased its capital stock from \$200,000.00 to \$300,000.00 and a year later it consolidated with the Lincoln National Bank. N. S. Harwood became president; C. A. Hanna, vice president; and F. M. Cook, cashier. The first two mentioned had been officers of the Lincoln National. In 1896, after four years of hard times, with much strain for bank officials, Mr. Cook resigned as cashier and D. D. Muir returned to the place he had formerly held. J. L. Carson became president, but he died shortly and Muir stepped into the presidency in January, 1897, with H. S. Freeman cashier. In 1899 a consolidation was effected with the American Exchange National Bank, which brought S. H. Burnham to the presidency of the First National. The latter bank was at this time almost entirely owned by President Perkins of the Burlington Railroad and it was practically sold outright to the American Exchange Bank. In 1907 the bank formed a



Early Episcopal Church, Twelfth and K streets, about 1880



Sod house in Lancaster County, about 1875



View showing Raymond Brothers' Grocery and State National Bank, about 1870



View of Lincoln showing First National Bank, about 1870

#### EARLY SCENES IN LINCOLN

[From Clement's Collection of Early Nebraska Photographs. Property of and used by permission of Nebraska History Seminar, State University]



combination with the Columbia National, whereby the latter merged with the former. In 1907 the First Trust Company and in 1911 the First Savings Bank were organized by the stockholders of the First National. The present officers of the bank are: S. H. Burnham, president; A. J. Sawyer and H. S. Freeman, vice presidents; P. R. Easterday, cashier; W. B. Ryons and Leo. J. Schmittel, assistant cashiers. The statement of the bank at the close of business March 7, 1916, places the capital stock at \$500,000.00; the surplus, \$300,000.00; the undivided profits, \$49,518.83; the circulation, \$200,000.00; and the deposits at \$3,815,593.00. The capital of the First Savings Bank, at the same date, was \$100,000.00; surplus, \$20,000.00; and deposits, \$1,150,570.91. The capital stock of the First Trust Company is \$50,000.00 and the surplus \$20,000.00. The total liabilities of the three amounts to \$5,069,591.18. The directors of the three institutions are: S. H. Burnham, E. J. Hainer, George W. Holmes, H. S. Freeman, A. J. Sawyer, Charles Stuart, J. E. Miller, F. M. Hall, C. B. Towle, E. B. Sawyer, E. J. Burkett, C. J. Bills, J. C. Seacrest, W. E. Sharp and F. H. Woods.

The present First National Bank Building was the pioneer of the modern twentieth-century office buildings in Lincoln. The bank has always occupied this corner. The building replaced by the new eight-story structure was erected in 1873 and was three stories in height. Work upon the new building was begun September 20, 1910 by the Selden-Breck Construction Company of St. Louis. Hyland & Green of Chicago were the architects. The building was completed and formally opened to the public on June 10, 1911.

The First National Bank has weathered all the storms and vicissitudes which have come upon the business world in the last forty-five years. The great panic of 1873, which wrecked scores of banks throughout the country, left the First National unscathed. Then came the panic of 1893, the crop failures of 1894 and 1895, the panic of 1907 and the near panic, or business depression of 1914, caused by the European war, but from each ordeal the bank emerged in safety. In 1892 the City of Lincoln boasted a total of thirteen banks and of that number the only one in existence today is the First National. All the others have since failed, or consolidated, or liquidated. The First National has itself absorbed four of the banks which were competitors in the '90s, the State National, the Lincoln National, the American Exchange National and lastly the Columbia National.

The State National Bank was founded in 1872 by the Richards Brothers and was purchased by E. E. Brown, K. K. Hayden and others in 1885 and reorganized. It was afterwards consolidated with the American Exchange Bank in 1892, which in turn consolidated with the First National in 1899. The American Exchange was incorporated on December 1, 1888, and began business at the southeast corner of N and Eleventh streets, with a capital stock of \$100,000.00. I. M. Raymond was president; Lewis Gregory, vice president; S. H. Burnham, cashier; and D. E. Wing, assistant cashier.

The Lincoln National Bank, which was located in the Richards Block at the corner of Eleventh and O streets, was organized in August, 1882, and ten years later went in with the First National.

C. W. Mosher was president and R. C. Outcalt, cashier, of the financial establishment of Marsh Brothers & Mosher, a house which later incorporated as the Capital National Bank, whose failure in 1893 created a profound sensation in banking circles and practically ruined many depositors, and landed President

Mosher in the Sioux City federal prison for a term of five years, and was a leading factor in the defalcation of State Treasurer Joseph Bartley, for which he was sentenced to the state penitentiary. This bank was located in the old Journal Building at the southwest corner of Ninth and O, later moving to Eleventh and O streets.

The Lancaster County Bank was incorporated in June, 1877, by Walter J. Lamb, Thomas Lowell, John Fawell, George C. Newman, J. C. McBride and Joseph W. Hartley, with a capital stock of \$50,000.00. The bank did business on the west side of Tenth Street, adjoining the alley between O and N. This bank afterwards liquidated.

The Union Savings Bank, which operated at 111 South Tenth Street, was incorporated April 26, 1886, prominent among the men who started it being John Fitzgerald, C. E. Yates, R. E. Moore, E. E. Brown, T. E. Calvert, J. J. Imhoff, John R. Clark, K. K. Hayden and J. McConnif. This bank afterwards went out of business in 1895, paying depositors in full.

The Nebraska Savings Bank, at the southeast corner of O and Thirteenth, was organized on July 20, 1886, among the organizers being C. C. White, J. G. Southwick, James Kilburn, J. L. Miles, George E. Bigelow, D. L. Brace, L. G. M. Baldwin, C. T. Brown and L. C. Humphrey. This bank went out of business about 1893. Other institutions of the city were on the ragged edge at this time, but no more failed until 1895, when the Merchants went under. This latter bank had been incorporated July 11, 1891, by C. E. Shaw, P. A. Wells, Charles White, J. A. Wells, G. R. Brown, J. Z. Briscoe, W. H. Walker, L. C. Burr, A. L. Shrader, Henry H. Dean, S. B. Pound, D. L. Brace, A. D. Kitchen, A. Reuber and R. S. Young, with a capital of \$100,000.00. The German National soon followed suit. This bank, located in the old Burr Block at the corner of Twelfth and O streets, was established December 10, 1886. Some men prominent in the affairs of this bank were: Herman H. Schaberg, C. C. Munson, Joseph Boehmer, C. E. Montgomery, Alex Halter, F. A. Boehmer, B. J. Brotherton, Walter J. Harris and J. A. Hudelson.

The Industrial Savings Bank was incorporated December 23, 1891, by William Stull, Louis Stull, George A. Mohrenstecher, D. E. Thompson and A. H. Weir. Fearing that the fate of the Union Savings would be theirs the Industrial went out of business in 1896. The Lincoln Savings and Safe Deposit Company, which had been established January 1, 1889, not long afterwards became insolvent. The Lancaster County Bank, mentioned above, brought up the rear very soon.

The City National Bank was organized in 1899 with Thomas Auld as president and J. H. Auld as cashier, and with a capital of \$100,000.00. L. J. Dunn became cashier in 1903, after the death of J. H. Auld. In September, 1907, just before the panic the bank increased its capital stock to \$250,000.00. In January, 1912, Thomas Auld sold his interest to L. B. Howey of Beatrice, who became president. The vice president now is L. J. Dunn, the cashier, E. H. Mullowney, and the assistant cashier, W. Van Riper. The capital remains at \$250,000.00; the surplus, \$90,000.00; and the deposits amount to \$2,000,000.00.

The National Bank of Commerce was established in Lincoln in 1902. M. Weil is the president, S. A. Foster the vice president, and James A. Cline, cashier. The capital stock of this growing institution is \$200,000.00; the surplus, \$120,000.00; and the deposits, \$1,500,000.00. The American Savings Bank was organized in



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, LINCOLN





1900. Following are the officers: J. C. Seacrest, president; C. B. Gregory, vice president; Charles B. Gregory, cashier; H. A. Easterday, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$30,000.00; the surplus, \$0,000.00; and the deposits over \$400,000.00. The German-American State Bank, which was organized in Lincoln in 1909, has a capital stock of \$50,000.00, a surplus of \$10,000.00, and deposits averaging \$460,000.00. H. E. Sidles is the president, C. Klose the vice president, and William Seelenfreund cashier. The Central National Bank was organized in 1907. P. L. Hall is the president of this institution; Samuel Patterson, cashier; and Henry Mathieson, assistant cashier. F. E. Johnson is vice president. The Nebraska State Bank was organized in 1911, with \$50,000.00 capital. The capital stock has been increased to \$100,000.00, with a surplus of \$5,000.00 and deposits amounting to \$1,000,000.00. The Lincoln State Bank was organized in 1913. Frank Parks is the president, D. L. Love is vice president, John Forrest is cashier, and J. E. Whitney is assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$100,000.00; the surplus, \$14,000.00; and the deposits have increased to \$400,000.00.

A meeting was held at the Columbia National Bank in Lincoln on March 1, 1906, for the purpose of organizing the Lincoln Clearing House; the representatives from the different banks being present. A constitution was presented and adopted. Dr. P. L. Hall was elected president; L. J. Dunn, vice president; and L. E. Wettling, secretary. All the banks represented at the meeting were duly elected members of the clearing house.

Bank clearings for the year 1915 show an increase of nearly \$10,000,000.00 over 1914—to be precise, \$9,776,437.00. This year the total was \$119,043,782.00, a year ago it was \$109,267,345.00. This is considered a remarkable increase in view of the war and general trade conditions over the country and one indication of the general prosperous condition prevailing in the country adjacent to Lincoln. Bank clearings are taken to indicate the amount of money that is spent each year in the conduct of business in sections of the country and with that in view Lincoln's place among the cities may be advanced a notch or two.

## CHAPTER XVI

### THE PRESS OF LINCOLN

Upon the day after the commissioners selected the site of the new capital of Nebraska the Nebraska City Press contained an announcement, signed by C. H. Gere, that the publication of a new paper at Lincoln, to be called the Commonwealth, would be started soon. On September 7, 1867, the first copy of the Commonwealth was run off the Press at Nebraska City, no printing facilities having been installed yet in Lincoln. The second issue of the paper did not appear until November 2d. This was printed in Lincoln, in the office of S. B. Gale, a stone building on the north side of the square; W. W. Carder, publisher; and C. H. Gere, editor. It was a seven-column sheet, of shabby appearance, the type being some cast-off primer and nonpareil which had been discarded by the Press. It was printed upon the first Washington press brought across the Missouri River into Nebraska Territory. The third number came out two weeks later, having been printed from its own office, a small stone building which stood on the Academy of Music Block. The appearance of the Commonwealth every week from this time was very regular until the spring of 1869, when the name of the paper was changed to the Nebraska State Journal. The history of the paper since this time may be found upon a later page.

The first morning paper to represent democratic principles was the Nebraska Statesman, founded in 1867 by Augustus Harvey. Later it was sold to Capt. W. T. Donovan, and a year afterwards he disposed of it to Randall & Smails. In 1874 the Statesman was sold to Nat W. Smails & Company and two years later died, the material going to the office of the Fremont Tribune.

The Daily Democrat was launched on January 9, 1879, by Gen. Victor Vifquain. Albert Watkins afterwards became interested in the publication, also A. J. Sawyer and A. B. Coffroth. On August 1, 1886, the paper passed into the hands of J. D. Calhoun, a writer on the State Journal, who ran the sheet for two years. At this time he sold out to Al Fairbrother, Sam D. Cox and H. M. Bushnell, whereupon the paper changed politics from democratic to republican. Fairbrother remained with the firm about a year and then sold out to them. The paper was rechristened the Call after Calhoun disposed of his interest to the above mentioned firm. Cox and Bushnell gave the city a lively paper for a number of years. In 1894, when the hard times were in full swing, the Call was sold to W. Morton Smith and L. L. H. Austin. Smith retired six months later. Austin continued the publication of the Call until July 1, 1898, when it was sold under mortgage foreclosure, later being purchased by the owners of the News. During the time that Austin controlled the paper its existence was full of trouble; he was of a very pugnacious temperament.

The first evening paper of which there is any record was the *Leader*. It was first published in 1873 and survived two years. It was operated by a stock company and C. C. Rawlings was the managing editor.

The *Daily Globe* appeared in 1874. It was published by Willis Sweet. In 1876 it was sold to F. T. Hedges, who ran it until May, 1879. The paper was then disposed of to Wilson & Higginson. In 1880 Webster Eaton, a former assistant postmaster of Lincoln, became its editor. Soon after this Mr. Calkins of Kearney assumed control of the publication. A few months afterwards the paper expired under peaceful conditions. I. L. Lyman was city editor of the sheet for some time.

The *Blade*, which made its bow to the public in 1875, was run by Major Coffray of Brownville. Its life was short. In six months it was dead and decently interred.

The *Western World* was the comprehensive title of a paper started January 1, 1879, by Col. L. C. Pace, once a councilman of the city. Strange to relate, when the publication of this paper ceased within a year's time, the colonel said the venture had been a paying one. He said that he had quit because he was tired of doing two men's work in order to make money.

In 1889 J. C. Seacrest and Walter L. Hunter began the publication of the *Evening Globe*. They ran the paper from October 1st to December 31st and then quit.

The *Evening Sun* was the first populist evening paper. It was issued January 16, 1892. H. S. Bowers and B. S. Littlefield were its editors. It was run by a stock company consisting of A. P. S. Stuart, G. B. Chapman, D. N. Johnson, H. S. Bowers, E. Kearns, C. W. Hoxie, and O. E. Goodell. It survived less than a year, but it made political matters hum while it lived.

It was not until 1896, four years later, that F. S. Eager and W. F. Schwind began the publication of another populist paper called the *Post*. Two years later, in 1898, it was sold to H. F. Rockey, of Freeport, Ill. In 1903 Mr. Rockey, through financial difficulties, was compelled to suspend publication. Some time later W. B. Price revived the *Post* in the form of a weekly paper, but continued just a short time, when the publication died a natural and merciful death.

The old *Commonwealth* continued under that name until the spring of 1869. Then it became the *Nebraska State Journal*. On July 20, 1870, the first issue of the *Daily State Journal* was published. Prior to this, in November, 1869, J. Q. Brownlee had succeeded Carder in the firm. On the same day that the first daily issue was placed before the public the first train on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad steamed into Lincoln. A daily edition had prior to this been worked off on the hand press, during the session of the Legislature in the winter of 1869-70, but it contained little more than a summary of the legislative proceedings. In the spring of 1871 the *Journal* returned to the State Block, took possession of the rooms over Rudolph's grocery, where more space was available for the increased work of the paper.

Shortly after this Brownlee disposed of his interests to H. D. Hathaway, of the *Plattsmouth Herald*, taking an interest in the latter paper as part payment, and the firm became Gere & Hathaway. In 1872 the job business of the publication was separated from it and A. H. Mendenhall and George W. Roberts, of Peoria, Ill., joined the forces. They took charge of the job printing department

and built up a creditable trade. The name of the new corporation was the State Journal Company.

In the early part of the year 1882 the working quarters of the company again became too cramped and the present building was constructed on the corner of Ninth and P streets, northeast. Ground was broken for the construction in June, 1880, and the building was ready for occupancy in December, 1881. The Journal is published from this same building at the present time.

In 1887 Mr. Roberts sold out his interest to John R. Clark, then cashier of the First National Bank. Mr. Gere became president; Mr. Mendenhall, vice president; Mr. Clark, secretary; and Mr. Hathaway, treasurer, of the corporation. The corporation has existed until now, various changes of stock having occurred at different times. The Gere estate continues to hold a large share of the stock.

In August, 1897, the Journal Company bought the News plant, quite an important addition to the former.

Col. Thomas H. Hyde, the founder of the News, wrote the following of the paper: "In 1881 there were four daily newspapers, the Journal, Globe, Democrat and News. The supply of weekly and monthly publications was large, representing manifold interests, all of which effectually drained the finances of sympathetic merchants, manufacturers, breeders of pet stock, and others interested in the production and sale of miscellaneous goods and wares they advertised. The News made its first appearance September 26th, the funeral occasion of the lamented President James A. Garfield. Four hundred and eighty copies, four columns each, were printed and five young lads, all bloated with noise, started the sale and delivery, with instructions to place all advertisers on the free list. Within less than three hours the entire edition was exhausted and nearly sufficient returns in the cash box to pay for paper and composition of reading matter.

"Eastern Nebraska was recovering from the disastrous effects of the grasshopper plague, and although crops had been excellent for several years, prejudice had not been entirely removed. Settlers were becoming numerous and so were the excursionists. A grand revival was evident. The city directory showed a large increase of business and citizens. The big railroads were headed this way, real estate, city lots especially, were advancing in price. Eastern capital flooded the banks and safes of money loaners. Opelt's line of Herdice was in operation at 5 cents a jog, and Harry Durfee with a street railroad was on his way from Illinois."

The first start of the News was as a morning paper by Hyde & Fleming. It was then printed in a small office in the basement of the southeast corner of Eleventh and O streets. Fleming remained but a few months. It was then moved upstairs over 1136 O Street, and issued from the job office of E. B. Hyde. It was four-column folio, but finally reached a maximum of four pages, eight column.

In 1885 Walter Hoge of Streator, Ill., purchased a third interest, the paper then being issued from the third story of the block at the southwest corner of Tenth and O streets. Later it was moved to North Tenth Street, and then to 125 North Ninth Street, where it remained until purchased by the Journal. Mr. Hoge withdrew in 1888, and the paper passed into the hands of the Lincoln News Company, with T. H. Hyde, E. B. Hyde and J. W. Jordan as the principal stockholders. In December, 1891, the newspaper was purchased by a stock com-

pany composed of H. T. Westermann, Fritz Westermann, Max Westermann, Sam E. Low and H. T. Dobbins. W. Morton Smith became its managing editor. Later he was succeeded by Sam E. Low and when he resigned, because of ill health, he was succeeded in 1893 by H. T. Dobbins, who has remained as editor ever since.

In March, 1897, the News passed into the hands of H. H. Tyndale, of New York, an uncle of the Westermanns. Two years previously the company installed the first linotypes in the City of Lincoln, and the heavy expense, followed closely by the hard times, compelled the mortgaging of the plant. Mr. Tyndale purchased it in foreclosure proceedings. He ran it for six months through his brother, T. H. Tyndale. In August, 1897, J. C. Seacrest purchased the newspaper and a few weeks later disposed of it to the State Journal Company, which operates it as a newspaper independent of other publications, with a distinct staff and news service.

The Journal and the News are both independent republican in politics and maintain a large influence throughout the eastern part of Nebraska. Will Owen Jones, who has been connected with the paper since 1892, is managing editor of the Nebraska State Journal. H. T. Dobbins, editor of the News, has been with the paper for twenty-eight years. Under the guidance of these two newspaper veterans the Journal and the News have maintained a strict policy, editorially, and have won popularity through honesty and fairness in giving the latest news to the public in the shortest time.

In May, 1902, there started in the City of Lincoln a daily newspaper, independent democratic in politics, which was destined to gain an enviable position in the newspaper field of Nebraska. This was the Lincoln Daily Star. The Star Publishing Company, which issues the publication, was incorporated on May 22, 1902, by D. E. Thompson, H. F. Rose, W. B. Comstock. The company was reincorporated on September 26th of the same year, with D. E. Thompson, president, and C. D. Mullen, secretary. A handsome building was constructed on the southeast corner of Eleventh and M streets in 1902. On September 13, 1910, a change of ownership occurred, D. E. Thompson, the principal stockholder, disposing of his interests, although he still owns the building occupied by the paper. Herbert E. Gooch now owns the principal stock of the company. J. W. Cutright is the editor of the Lincoln Star at the present time. Mr. Cutright started in newspaper work in Lincoln as early as 1892, having been a member of the News staff at that time.

The first German newspaper published in the city was the *Staats-Zeitung*, which was owned and edited by Dr. F. Renner. This paper was afterwards removed to Nebraska City.

The Germans residing in the city in 1880 contributed certain sums of money and the Nebraska *Staats-Anzeiger* was first published in May of that year by Peter Karberg, who had come here from Dubuque, Iowa. The paper became very influential in the state. Mr. Karberg died on July 2, 1884, and it became necessary to dispose of the paper, the plant finally going to Henry Brüggmann. In October, 1887, however, financial difficulties compelled the foreclosure and sale of this publication.

The Lincoln *Freie Presse* was first published on September 1, 1884, by G. Z. Bluedhorn, who afterwards sold it to J. D. Kluetsch. The *Freie Presse* is still

published in Lincoln and is very prominent in the State of Nebraska as well as in surrounding states. The circulation is large among the German people in this territory, and, both mechanically and editorially, the Presse is of high standard.

The Nebraska Farmer was the first agricultural paper to be published in Lincoln, having been established in 1872 by Gen. J. C. McBride and J. C. Clarkson. At the time this publication was established the farming and live stock interests of Nebraska amounted to very little in comparison to their present status, but the main reason for establishment of the Nebraska Farmer was to promote, by its influence, the success of certain land deals in the state in connection with a railway project. It was not many years until the farming interests of the state began to gain appreciably and the paper became more successful. It is now being published in Lincoln and is one of the most successful farm and livestock papers in the Middle West.

The Commoner is a monthly paper which has gained national reputation, owing to the prominence of its owner, William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Bryan established the Commoner in January, 1901, and it has been published regularly since that time. The first office of this paper was in the building on the east side of Twelfth, between L and M, but it is now housed in the Press Building at Thirteenth and N. Mr. Charles W. Bryan is the editor of the paper, which has an extensive circulation over the whole country. Bryan democracy in all its phases, even to ultra-pacifism, 1916, is the editorial tone of the sheet.

Numerous other publications are now issued from Lincoln, including the various university and college papers, and many more have been established in the past and died for want of support. The ones mentioned, however, are the leaders in a field of much varied journalism.





By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

BEGINNING OF THE ERECTION OF LINCOLN POSTOFFICE, 1873



## CHAPTER XVII

### THE LINCOLN POSTOFFICE

Mr. C. N. Baird, the third postmaster of the City of Lincoln, wrote the following in regard to his postal experiences here:

"I arrived in Lincoln March 22, 1868, when the postoffice was in a small building made of brown sandstone, located on the corner of Tenth and O streets. Jacob Dawson was then serving his term as first postmaster of Lincoln, but resigned in the summer of that same year. W. J. Abbott was appointed the second postmaster and was removed a short time afterwards for rifling the mail. About November, 1868, the office was removed to a small frame building, 14 by 16 feet in size, north of the Humphrey Hardware Store. My first appointment was January 8, 1869, signed by A. C. Randall, postmaster-general, on recommendation of John M. Thayer.

"On coming into office I found a great amount of mail that had been forwarded from both houses of the Legislature which was to be stamped and mailed. There was not a stamp or an envelope in the office, so I marked the bunch of mail paid and shipped it out. I did not know what would be done with me for doing this, but I was not going to be caught with all of that mail upon my hands. I wrote to the officials at Washington explaining the situation and kept an account of the mail sent until I could receive a supply of stamps from Omaha. At that time all of the office supplies were brought from Omaha on the stage, mail being delivered three times a week.

"One morning as I was cleaning out a box of old papers I found a long envelope addressed to officials at Washington, D. C. It was quite evident that the postage stamp had been pulled off and the letter thrown away, so I opened it to see what it might be. It was an application for the postmastership which had been mailed at the time of Dawson's administration. Abbott, who was appointed his successor, was working in the office at that time and had thrown away this application without mailing it, after taking off the revenue stamp, which at that time was worth one dollar, and placing it on his own application. As no one else had applied for the office this young fellow thought it would only be a matter of hearing from Washington until he would be postmaster. Meanwhile he built a nice set of cases for the letters and rented a room for the office. As time rolled by no word was received from Washington until Abbott was appointed postmaster. The boy had told me his story and when I found his application thrown among the rubbish in the office, it explained all. I had recommended the boy and was very sorry he did not get the office as he was a good, honest fellow. The postmaster's salary was then \$300.00.

"In 1870 I removed the office to a room on Eleventh Street, south of the

Harley Drug Store. The next move was to the west side of Eleventh Street, into a frame building owned by Walsh & Putnam, which stood next to the alley. Afterwards I moved to the north side of the square just east of the Atwood Hotel, which was located on the present site of the State Journal Building. The last move I made was to the Hallo Opera House, at Twelfth and O streets. All the moves made were for more room and better facilities for handling the mails. Mr. Hallo tendered the free use of the corner room and as others had made the same offer I asked the postoffice department to send a special agent to make the selection. They ordered Maj. John B. Furay of Omaha to come, he being at that time a special agent. He came down and visited the various places that had been offered me and gave a hearing to all interested parties, after which he asked me confidentially where I wanted to go. I told him and in a few days I received a lease from the department and I was instructed to pay \$11 a month as stated in the lease.

"I was succeeded by Gen. Otto Funke. While he was there the building burned down, but the mail was saved. When I took charge of the office we had no railroad. Our mail was carried by stage coaches, spring wagons, buckboards and upon horseback. I received the first mail brought into Lincoln by railroad."

At the time of the laying of the cornerstone of the present magnificent post-office building, Mr. E. R. Sizer, then postmaster, read a paper in which was an account of the building of the first postoffice building, now the city hall of Lincoln. This excerpt follows:

"Governor Robert W. Burns conveyed the market space to the City of Lincoln on March 31, 1873, and Acting Mayor John J. Gosper, with City Clerk Cantlon, attesting, on the 1st day of April, 1873, conveyed the present Government Square to the United States of America, in accordance with an ordinance of the city council, dated March 31, 1873.

"Senator P. W. Hitchcock, of Omaha, was mainly influential in securing the original appropriation for the old Government building. He had succeeded Gen. John M. Thayer as senator in 1871 and General Thayer was also influential in urging upon the Government the actual instituting of the work of excavation and erection of the building, and in getting other necessary preliminaries arranged and thereby preventing the appropriation from lapsing. As the remaining time was very short during which the appropriation would be available, and as Senator Hitchcock was at that time in Europe, General Thayer made a trip to Washington and saw Hon. A. B. Mullett, the supervising architect of the treasury, who was a personal friend of the general and who took immediate steps toward the adjustment of the title of the site and the erection of the building. W. H. B. Stout is also said to have been influential locally in urging the original appropriation for the Government building.

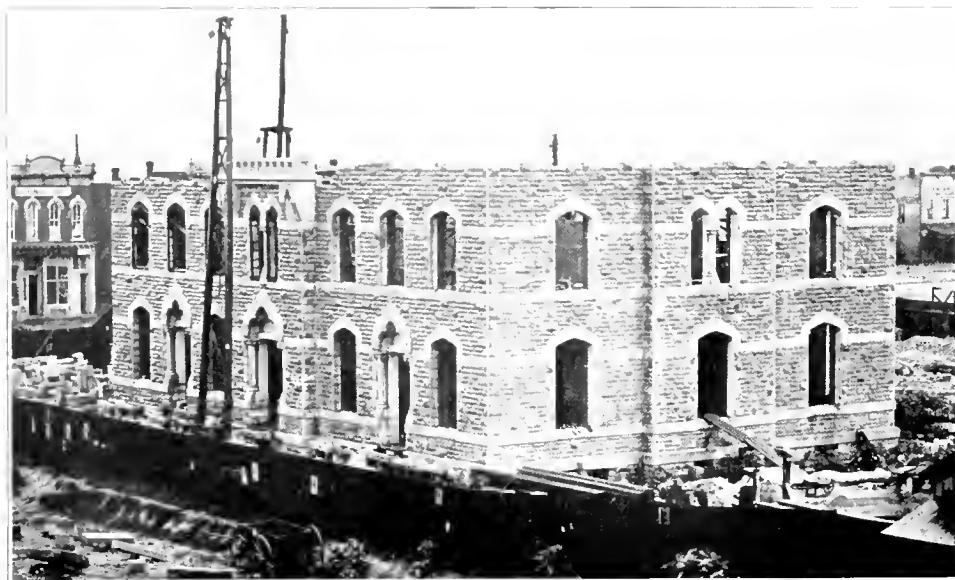
"Senator Hitchcock had Col. O. H. Wilson appointed a superintendent of the Government building. Mr. Wilson served in that capacity for about one year and was succeeded by a Mr. Beals, who served a shorter period. Mr. Beals was in turn succeeded by Mr. Tyler, who continued as superintendent of construction until the building was finished.

"The survey for the excavation of the old building was made May 25, 1874, and ground was broken on Tuesday, May 26, 1874. One of the newspapers of that date mentioned that it was very difficult to plow the ground, due to its being





VIEW OF POSTOFFICE IN 1875  
Old Capitol Building in the distance



By courtesy of G. R. Wolf of Lincoln

VIEW OF LINCOLN POSTOFFICE IN 1873  
Now City Hall



UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE AND POSTOFFICE, LINCOLN



packed by reason of its being a market. The *State Journal* of May 28, 1874, notes that Colonel Wilson had given the preference to married men over single men in employment on the postoffice building. On June 30, 1874, the announcement was made in the local press that the excavation was completed. The contract for stone work on the Government building was let three different times, the last being to W. H. B. Stout. The Beatrice Cement Company was awarded the contract for furnishing cement. C. H. Gould and a Mr. Sawyer furnished the sand and brick. The building was finally built of gray limestone, said to have been taken from the Gwyer Quarries on the Platte River. No exercises appear to have been had in connection with the laying of the cornerstone of the old building and it was completed in 1879."

Immediately after the abandonment of the old postoffice building in 1906, the new one being completed, the city took steps to utilize the building as a city hall. Plans were made and the interior rearranged and refinished for the accommodation of the city offices and council rooms. The building now serves the purpose of a city hall.

The new \$350,000 postoffice building was erected just north of the old structure, upon Government Square, and was secured largely through the efforts of Congressman E. J. Burkett. On September 2, 1904, the cornerstone was laid and in the fall of 1906 the building was formally opened to the public. The cornerstone was laid in the forenoon by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Nebraska, with Grand Master Charles E. Burnham, of Norfolk, in charge of the ceremonies. An escort of Knights Templar in uniform and Blue Lodges Nos. 19 and 54, gave the ceremonies a picturesque appearance. The program included a prayer by Rev. J. Lewis Marsh, chaplain of the Grand Lodge; addresses by Governor J. H. Mickey, Mayor George A. Adams, Congressman Burkett and Postmaster E. R. Sizer. The brass band of the Bittner Stock Company, which was then filling an engagement in Lincoln, furnished the music, the Hagenow Band being obliged to play at the State Fair then in progress.

In 1915 an appropriation of \$100,000 was secured for an addition to the postoffice building, in order to give more room for the work of the office. This appropriation has since been raised to \$225,000. Work upon the addition to the west is now in progress, during which time the postoffice occupies temporary quarters in the improvised building at the corner of Tenth and N streets, southeast.

The postmasters who have served in the City of Lincoln have been: Jacob Dawson, appointed when the capital was located here and served until the fall of 1868, when he resigned; W. J. Abbott, served a few months only; C. N. Baird, January, 1869–April, 1875; Otto Funke, April, 1875–June, 1881; J. C. McBride, June, 1881–November, 1885; Albert Watkins, November, 1885–January, 1890; C. H. Gere, January, 1890–March, 1894; J. H. Harley, March, 1894–February, 1898; H. M. Bushnell, March, 1898–February, 1902; E. R. Sizer, March, 1902–November, 1914; F. W. Brown, November, 1914–died July 7, 1915; J. G. Ludlan, July 8th–September 18; A. S. Tibbetts, September 18th–died September 25th; Frederick Shepherd, September 27th–November 15th; Samuel G. Hudson, November 15th–. Ludlan, Tibbetts and Shepherd were acting postmasters only. Mr. Hudson is the first regular postmaster since F. W. Brown.

To give one some idea of the amount of business done in the Lincoln postoffice the figures for 1915 are used. The total postal receipts for the year amounted

to \$465,328.75; stamp sales amounted to \$384,851.54; there were 20,929 parcel post packages delivered; there were 24,891 insured parcels dispatched; there were 2,866 insured parcels delivered; there were 19,941 C. O. D. parcels dispatched; the outgoing mail of the first class by machine count totaled 15,296,000 parcels; the money order department handled the sum of \$3,485,633.23; in the postal savings department there was on deposit \$22,617.00. The postal business of Lincoln has been increasing every year. There are 169 employes of the Lincoln office.



## CHAPTER XVIII

### THE LINCOLN LIBRARY

For the early history of the public library in the City of Lincoln the account written by Mrs. S. B. Pound and read before the Nebraska State Historical Society on January 10, 1893, is quoted. It is as follows:

"The Lincoln Public Library and Reading Room Association, the embryo of the city library, was organized toward the close of the darkest period in the history of Lincoln, the year 1875. No just conception can be had of its early struggles and privations without a review of that period.

"As is well known to those who lived in Nebraska at that time, the summers of 1873 and 1874 had been dry, the crops were poor, and what the drouth and hail had spared was taken by the grasshoppers. The winter of 1874-75 was severely cold, the thermometer during the months of January and February standing for many days at a time below zero. It was a time most painful to remember. There was the long and constant appeal for help from the poor and suffering during the winter, and the gloomier prospects of the coming spring. Who can picture to himself today the Lincoln of 1875? Upon the square was a pile of stones and an excavation, the beginning of the United States Courthouse and Postoffice (now the Lincoln City Hall). On each side of the square were a few business houses—perhaps a dozen in all. Three or four of these were of brick or brown sandstone, the rest hastily erected frame buildings, which seemed illy adapted to withstand the strong winds that would blow with increasing fury from the south, and then with a sudden veer, would come with a redoubled energy from the north.

"At the southeast corner of O and Tenth streets, the eye, wearied with the unpleasant repetition of square front, white frame grocery stores, found rest; for there, in all its fresh, new beauty, stood the First National Bank Building, called the State Block. O Street, between Tenth and Eleventh, had begun to assume something like symmetrical proportions. It contained five or six brick blocks, the finest of which was the Academy of Music. Business ended at Twelfth Street where stood Hallo's Opera House; and the croakers—of whom there were many—wondered why he had located it so far east, and said that business could never stretch beyond that distant point. A few of the more sanguine said it might possibly reach Fourteenth Street. The high school building recently finished was thought by some to be too large, who advised turning it into a Methodist Seminary and building two smaller ones. There were five hotels, some of them very good for the times; the Atwood, the Metropolitan, the Clifton, the Commercial and the Tichenor. The churches were all frame structures and occupied their present sites with the exception of the Presbyterian, Baptist and Chris-

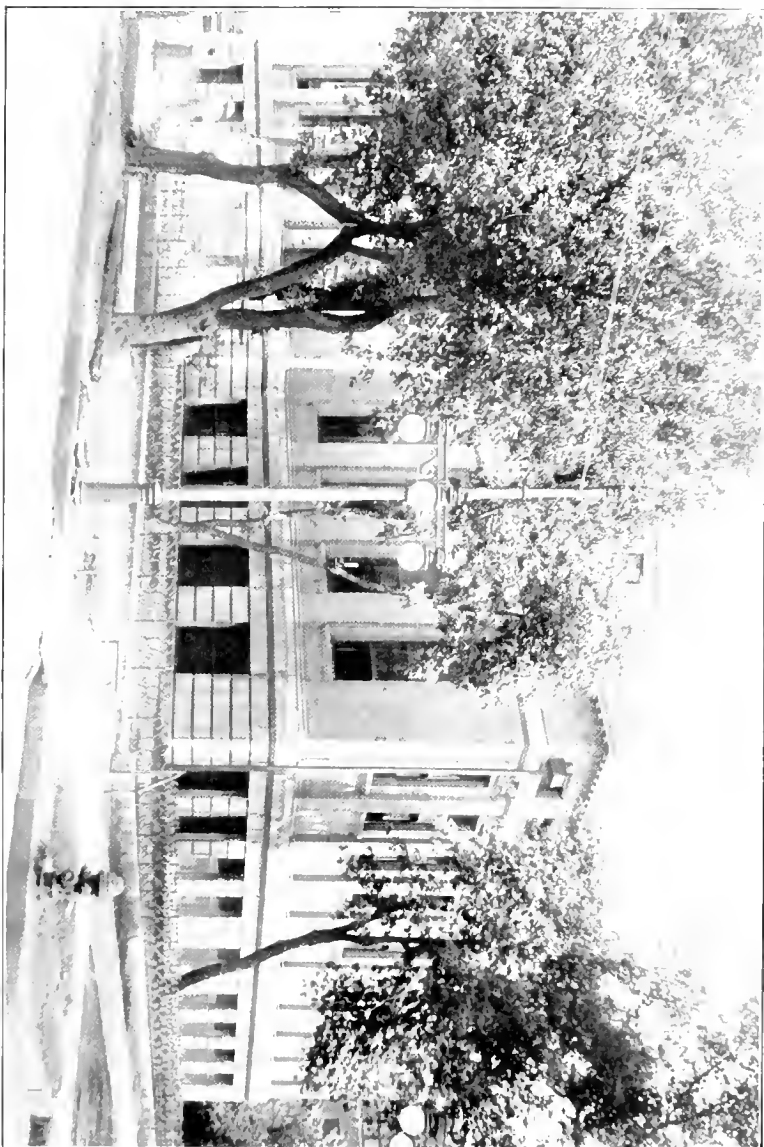
tian. Residences were scattered promiscuously over the prairie, apparently by accident. The most thickly settled part of the town lay between F and R streets and Eighth and Seventeenth. A very few were sufficiently aristocratic to own brick houses, but the majority were either square cottages or the regulation four-room, story and a half structures. The title to the disputed eighty had not yet been settled and on this barren looking spot stood one lonely house, the unfinished brick built by George Smith, the jeweler. There were few well defined streets. The roads ran as best suited the convenience of the public and that might be directly across one's front or back yard. This was Lincoln of January 1, 1875, looking ahead with gloom and foreboding at the approaching session of the Legislature, yet brave enough to celebrate New Year's Day by keeping 'open house.'

"The new year opened badly. There was first the mutiny at the penitentiary, which brought that institution into unpleasant prominence at an unfortunate time. Next stalked forth the grim spectre of Capital Removal, which stayed constantly by and never vanished until the adjournment of the Legislature. Once during that dreary time, the local editor of the State Journal had the courage to record the following 'magnificent improvements' that were to come with the approaching spring: the building of the Holmes Block on Eleventh Street between O and N, the Lamborn and Wittman blocks on the east side of the square, and then he breaks forth into the following pleasant refrain: 'All these things speak well for the future of our beautiful new city, and we advise those who wish to make good investments to come early and secure good seats.'

"The spring was cold, backward and rainy, but not cold enough to destroy the young grasshoppers or retard their growth. Yet one reads with pleasure in the old files of the State Journal that through the energy of Mr. H. J. Walsh a subscription was raised and the citizens celebrated Arbor Day, May 3d, by planting trees on the capitol grounds. One also finds about the same time a published statement of the expenditure of \$59.25 raised by the same gentleman to plant trees on the university campus. Beside the rain and the grasshoppers fresh troubles were in store for the citizens of Lincoln. These came May 9th with the meeting of the constitutional convention. First and foremost was always the question of capital removal and now in addition to this was the agitation suddenly sprung by the Omaha Republican, which advised the closing of the state university for five years, in order to give the high schools of the state a better chance and to save expenses. This, perhaps, might be called the turning point in the history of Lincoln, for it was at this crisis, through the untiring energy of the Lancaster delegation, that by the submission to the people, of what is known as the capital coupon, the question of capital removal was finally laid to rest.

"The summer of 1875 was probably the rainiest ever known in the annals of Nebraska. The rain gauge at the college farm registered for June alone 5.88 inches. Salt Creek was out of its bounds the most of the summer, and once during the month of June the high water reached nearly to the Metropolitan Hotel.

"By July 1st the last hopper had flown, the continuous wet weather hurried along vegetation, and where a few weeks before starvation seemed to stare one in the face now crops promised abundance. The fall was probably warm and



PETZEL LIBRARY, LINCOLN



dry, for in the State Journal of September 20th the editor warns the people against the danger of prairie fires, and very soon after the fire company burned a cordon around the town. The greatest calamity of the year was the burning of Hallo's Opera House on the evening of October 5th. With characteristic energy the people immediately subscribed \$10,000 and on October 12th Mr. Hallo began tearing away the old walls preparatory to rebuilding.

"It was about this time that the people began to agitate in earnest the subject of a public library and reading room, and to urge the consolidation of the Young Men's Library and Lecture Association and the Ladies' Library and Reading Room Association. These two associations, organized at nearly the same time, were working in different directions to accomplish the same end. The first had, during the winters previous, given the people the benefit of many excellent lectures. The second, organized immediately after the temperance crusade, had maintained for a time a reading room on Eleventh Street, just south of Harley's Drug Store. This, on account of hard times, was discontinued in April of 1875. The ladies, however, did not relinquish the project, but held a meeting on May 8th in the interest of their association. The earliest mention that one finds of the plan of consolidation is in the State Journal of July 27th. The editor says, 'We hope those who have been agitating the city library question will not give up the undertaking, but will see that the library becomes an assured fact the coming fall. By a union of the Ladies' Reading Room Association and the Lincoln Lecture Association, the matter can be accomplished without extraordinary effort.'

"About November 15th things took a definite shape and a meeting was called at the White Schoolhouse on Eleventh and Q streets for the purpose of 'establishing and maintaining a public library and reading room.' The following persons were appointed a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws: E. J. Cartlege, J. C. Ellis, H. W. Hardy, T. H. Leavitt, O. A. Mullan and L. J. Bumstead. Their report can be found in the State Journal of December 9, 1875. In this report they state that they 'have held eight lengthy sessions,' that they 'had extended an invitation to the officers of the Lincoln Lecture Association to meet with them,' that 'the invitation had been cordially accepted,' and that at one of the meetings N. S. Harwood had presided. They further state that 'impressed with the profound sense of the importance of the interests under consideration, not only for the present, but for the future citizens of this city and vicinity' they 'had applied themselves to the matter accordingly, and with the purpose to suggest and provide for such a plan of association and operation as should serve for a good foundation on which to build safely and surely, and with reasonable prospects of steady growth and permanent endurance.' They called attention to the difficulties which beset the enterprise, on account of the newness of the town, the complex character of its inhabitants, and the difficulty of providing ways and means, especially at a time when it would seem most difficult in view of the disasters of the two previous seasons. In submitting a constitution they strongly recommended to the citizens that no hasty action should be taken, and above all that no division of interest should be allowed. They commended the work of both associations and suggested a way by which they could be united.

"This report was read and approved at a meeting held December 12th at the Academy of Music. This meeting was called to order by E. J. Cartlege and

Chancellor Benton presided. Speeches were made by J. R. Webster, Judge O. P. Mason, N. S. Harwood, and others. As an incentive to prompt action on the part of the citizens, Mr. Webster alluded to the record the town had already made, especially in the matter of railroad building. Donations of books and money were called for; promises of assistance previously made were renewed. The best gift at this meeting was a set of Appleton's American Encyclopedia donated by Prosper Smith. A committee was appointed to canvass the town and the meeting adjourned until December 18th.

"At this meeting N. S. Harwood presided and O. A. Mullan acted as secretary. The chairman of the canvassing committee reported that they had secured twelve life members and 130 annual members, amounting to \$984. The Committee on Permanent Organization reported the following names for officers: N. S. Harwood, president; Mrs. Sarah F. Harris, vice president; Mrs. Ada Van Pelt, secretary; H. W. Hardy, treasurer; Joel L. Franklin, Otto Funke, O. A. Mullan, trustees; C. H. Gere, T. H. Leavitt, J. R. Webster, S. S. Brock, May Bostater, Miss N. Cole, directors.

"The first meeting of the board of directors was held December 20th at the office of Tuttle and Harwood. At this meeting various committees were appointed. The next meeting of the board, held December 30th at the same place, voted to rent the entire second floor of the Briggs Block at \$240 per year. The lease was afterwards drawn by J. R. Webster. When the bells rang in the centennial year the Lincoln Public Library and Reading Room Association was practically established. There being no provision in the statutes of Nebraska for the founding and maintaining of public libraries, it was of necessity a subscription association. The two old associations had combined. The ladies turned over their property, consisting of some articles of furniture, fixtures, and \$21 in cash, and the young men of the lecture association gave the proceeds of their lectures amounting to about three hundred dollars to the book fund, making their own selection of books.

"On January 28, 1876, the library was ready for the public and Mrs. Van Pelt, the librarian, commenced to give out books. The floor was covered with a bright red ingrain carpet; there was a table covered with green cloth at each end of the room, and the walls were hung with pictures donated by members of the association. On the shelves were 367 books. The library was kept open on Sunday, the directors serving in alphabetical order in place of the librarian. This custom they continued until the summer of 1882, when the finances were sufficient to allow the directors to pay extra for Sunday service. On March 7, 1876, the librarian made her first report. There were then in the library over one thousand volumes. During the time that the library had been open 212 books had been drawn out for home use and 665 used in the room.

"The first half of the year 1877 found the new and struggling library constantly in arrears. In February a committee consisting of Messrs. Harwood, Franklin and McBride presented to the city council a petition signed by the principal taxpayers of the city and asked for an appropriation. This appropriation was passed March 10th and vetoed March 28th by the mayor, R. D. Silver, popularly known as the watch dog of the city treasury. Of the many reasons given for this veto, three are here given. First, because it would lead to other foolish appropriations and tend to extravagance; second, because of its unconsti-

tutionality, there being no provision in the city charter for such action; and lastly, because he 'did not think the citizens cared to be taxed to furnish a resort for boys and young men inclined to be wild.'

"In April, the treasury of the library association being empty, the rent was paid by Messrs. Harwood and McBride. Soon after the association was authorized to borrow \$100, the note being signed by Otto Funke, trustee, and endorsed and guaranteed by J. R. Webster, N. S. Harwood, C. D. Hyatt and C. H. Gere, jointly and severally.

"It was most fortunate for the city library at this crisis that the newly elected mayor, H. W. Hardy, was friendly to its interests. He had been one of the committee on constitution and by-laws at the time of its organization, and had been its first treasurer. He urged an appropriation of \$100, which was promptly passed, only two members of the city council opposing. This appropriation kept the library association alive until, under the act passed by the Legislature February 17, 1877, 'for the establishment and maintaining of free public libraries,' an ordinance could be passed and a levy made for its support. This ordinance was passed by the city council and approved by Mayor Hardy June 15th. On July 25, 1877, the property of the Lincoln Public Library and Reading Room Association was conveyed by deed to the City of Lincoln, and the Lincoln Public Library established.

"One mill upon each dollar of assessed valuation was the amount allowed for the library fund. When this levy was made, the library had already incurred an indebtedness of several hundred dollars. The tax not being collected for a year the board issued warrants and sold them at a discount. The levy being subsequently reduced to three-fourths of a mill, it took until 1888 to pay off the indebtedness and bring the warrants to their par value. In the meantime, in order to raise a book fund, the board was obliged to charge \$1 a year for membership tickets. This method, which often subjected the directors to severe criticism, but which fortunately was never stopped by legal proceedings, was discontinued September 1, 1888, when the library being free from debt, the books were loaned on guaranty cards.

"On January 1, 1881, the library was moved from the Briggs Block to the second floor of the building long known as The Little Store, next to the Alexander Block at the corner of O and Twelfth streets. Here the library remained for nine years, and notwithstanding its poverty, gradually expanded until there was no more room for alcoves and the reading room would not longer hold the crowd that came daily to the library. On January 1, 1889, the library was removed to the Harris Block on N Street, between Eleventh and Twelfth."

This concludes the history as written by Mrs. Pound

The library remained for five years at the Harris Block location, and at the end of this time, after a canvass, the Masonic Temple was selected and a five years' lease secured. The library was installed in rooms on the second floor.

On September 16, 1899, the city library, at the above location, was totally destroyed by fire. Immediate steps were taken, however, for its restoration. Books were collected and catalogued as rapidly as possible and the following winter the library was again open to the public. For 2½ years it was located on the third floor of the Oliver Theater Building, and on May 27, 1902, moved into its permanent home.

Soon after the fire the needs of the library were brought to the attention of Andrew Carnegie and on Christmas of the year 1899 he offered to the city the sum of \$75,000 for the erection of a building. Steps were taken immediately to secure a site and though several were offered as a gift none were wholly suitable for the purpose. The library board, therefore, appealed to the citizens of the city for voluntary donations with which to purchase a site, with the result that about \$10,000 was subscribed for the purpose by the residents, numbering 5,500, in amounts ranging from 5 cents to \$1,000. Later Mr. Carnegie gave \$2,000 more to finish the structure. Fisher & Lawrie, of Omaha, were the architects of the building. Ground was broken December 1, 1900.

Preliminary plans were adopted by the board after a careful investigation of modern libraries and the particular needs to be met in this case. The prime feature in determining the essential details of the plan was the possibility of economical administration. It was recognized that no library is so rich in funds that its usefulness cannot be enhanced by economy in administrative expenses. With this in view it was necessary to bring all the essential departments of the library together on a single floor, with the rooms so arranged as to allow complete supervision from a single point. The main portion of the building is a rectangle, 68 by 104 feet. In the rear is an extension for the main stack room, 20 by 43, and a small extension for the librarian's and cataloguing rooms, 19 by 27 feet. The building consists of a main floor and a high basement, the floor of the latter being but  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet below the building grade, which itself is about three feet above the level of the street. The entrance is directly to the main floor. The basement to the top of the water table, a distance of about ten feet, is faced with first quality blue Bedford stone, accurately squared and rubbed. Above this, the building is constructed of the best quality of gray pressed brick, with trimmings of gray terra cotta several shades lighter. The roof is covered with a dull red tile and the whole is surmounted by a low dome, faced with gray brick and roofed with copper.

The entrance, which is approached by a flight of easy stairs, is surmounted by a pediment in which are ornamental designs of terra cotta in high relief. The pediment is supported by two fluted Ionic columns, one on each side of the entrance. The entrance through the outer door is into a broad light vestibule, wainscoted with dark Tennessee marble. The upper portion is finished in Keen's cement, the sides being moulded in the form of pilasters. A short flight of stairs of easy steps brings the visitor to the level of the main floor, and from the vestibule he passes into the spacious and well lighted delivery room. To the right of the delivery room in front is the reading room for newspapers and periodicals. To the left is the staircase, leading to the basement. To the left and next to the staircase is the reference room, in which the arrangement of the books is such as to permit the doubling of the initial shelf capacity, without rearrangement in any essential particular.

Opposite the entrance in the delivery room is the main delivery counter, semi-circular in form, where books are received and issued. To the right of the delivery room is the children's room, in which are kept all books and periodicals for the special use of juvenile readers.

The first board of directors elected by the city council consisted of the following: C. H. Gere, T. H. Leavitt, C. D. Hyatt, S. W. Chapman, John M. Burks,



Mrs. Paren England, Mrs. M. E. Roberts, Mrs. John L. McConnell. The following have held the position of librarian: Mrs. Ada Van Pelt, Miss Laura Cinnamond, Miss Alice Morton, Miss Nellie Ormsbee, Miss Rachel Manley, Miss Sarah K. Daly, Miss Hattie Curtiss, Miss Carrie Dennis, Miss Jane H. Abbott, Miss Margaret Palmer, Miss E. J. Hagey, Miss Lulu Horne.

To Mr. S. L. Geisthardt, for many years a member of the city library board, much credit is due for the watchful and unrelenting care given by him in the superintending of the construction of the building, which is one of the best for the money in the West, and the pride of Lincoln. There are now about thirty-seven thousand five hundred books in this library.

#### BRANCH LIBRARY

In February, 1907, arrangements were made for a small space in a corner grocery store at Twenty-seventh and Holdrege streets. A small collection of books was sent out and on Saturday afternoons and evenings an assistant went out and lent books. This was the beginning of the northeast branch which was located at Twenty-seventh and Orchard. The citizens subscribed sufficient money for a site and Andrew Carnegie gave \$10,000 for the construction of the building. This was completed and opened to the public on July 29, 1909.

## CHAPTER XIX

### THE SOCIAL SIDE OF LINCOLN

Some of the early residents of Lincoln regard the imputation that there was only one swallow-tail in Lincoln in pioneer days as a slur upon the city. "This was always a well-dressed town," said one of these gentlemen. "The men were up-to-date young fellows from the East and wore just what they had been accustomed to wear in their eastern college or home towns. A dress coat of finest texture and finish worn in Lincoln in 1870-71 by J. W. Eckman, a banker and real estate man of those days, who died a few years ago, is preserved by his sister-in-law, Mrs. C. C. Waldo, known before her marriage as Libbie Gumaer." Further testimony as to T. P. Kennard's famous dress coat was received from John B. Wright, who settled in Lincoln in 1875. Mr. Wright recalled seeing Mr. Kennard at political conventions in the early days clad in a dress suit.

When N. C. Brock brought his bride to Lincoln in 1870 he had a Prince Albert coat, used at his marriage, and a silk hat. Another pioneer said that when Dr. and Mrs. S. G. Fuller, the latter Miss M. Frank Townley, were married at the Townley House in 1870, Doctor Fuller wore a dress suit.

In this connection there is a clipping now preserved which gives an account of the coming of the Townley family to Lincoln, and the building of the Townley House. It follows:

"In 1868 to call Lincoln a village was a misnomer. The magic city of the great American desert was altogether in the imagination of the real estate agent. In the early summer of that year my father came to Lincoln (written by Mrs. Fuller), purchased lots and let the contract for a ten-room house, to be built where the Lindell Hotel now stands, and to be completed the 1st of October. The only building south of this location was on the corner of Thirteenth and K streets. Reverend Little of the Congregational Church lived in a 1½-story house with a bay window, where R. H. Oakley's house now stands, on M Street between Sixteenth and Seventeenth. Elder Davis of the Methodist Church lived on L Street between Thirteenth and Fourteenth. On August 20th we left Cincinnati accompanied by our household and the inevitable dog, a thoroughbred pointer. My father met us at Nebraska City with two wagons to convey us and our effects to our new home. On the morning of September 20th we reached Lincoln. I will try to picture the city at that time. It had not more than seventy-five houses, built anywhere, regardless of the points of the compass, with nothing to show which was the front and which the back door or to define the street line; no school or church, a few small stores about the postoffice square, the office

itself in a dwelling house and the postmaster himself very curious over the few letters.

"On Tenth Street between P and Q there was a small building in which school was kept. On Sunday morning the Methodists held a service there and in the afternoon the Congregationalists. The first Episcopal service was held in Leighton's and Brown's unfinished store at the corner of Eleventh and O streets. We cleared a space in front, put a white cloth on one end of the carpenter's bench and made seats by placing a board on two nail kegs. I think there were twelve people there, of whom eight were familiar with the service, and of these eight seven have joined the majority. From that nucleus Holy Trinity Church came. In 1869 we had a mission priest who held service in many of the new buildings and after a while had the use of the Senate chamber.

"There are a number of people in Lincoln today who remember many pleasant evenings spent in the old Townley House with music, games and conversation, when we did what we could to help each other through that first winter."

The Lincoln Courier of 1890, in connection with an article on the Pleasant Hour Club, which had its beginning about 1874, has the following on the subject of dress:

"Good form in the early days did not demand full dress at the Pleasant Hour assemblies, and the parties were marked by the entire absence of formality that inevitably follows the introduction of the claw-hammer, carriages and flowers. For a long time the town boasted of only one 'hack' and everybody walked. Cut-aways and Prince Alberts and the usual indoor feminine apparel constituted the full dress. A new era dawned ten or twelve years ago when G. W. Farwell broke the ice and appeared in a spick and span swallow-tail. His example was followed by a few of the bravest among the men, but it took some time before the wearing of these suits overcame the feeling of sheepishness. The custom demanded carriages and the Pleasant Hour parties gradually became more and more elaborate until the present condition of affairs was reached." This was printed in 1890, when the Pleasant Hour Club seemed too important in Lincoln's social life ever to be disbanded.

An interesting collection of New Year's calling cards has been preserved by an early resident of Lincoln, and shows that the custom of extending greeting in person on the first day of the new year used to be quite general in this city. The earliest of the cards has the dates "1869-1870," and the name "Jesse M. Holden," with "A Happy New Year" at the top. Many of the cards have but one name, but more have several, showing that the men usually called in groups. A card of 1871 bears the names of N. C. Brock, R. H. Oakley, J. D. Thompson and R. C. Outcalt. Another dated 1871 shows that C. M. Parker, W. J. Turner, J. N. Eckman and I. Putnam went calling together on New Year's Day of that year. "Governor D. Butler," written in nicely shaded penmanship on a card, is a record that the governor of that period called alone. So did O. N. Humphrey, Steve Brock, and others.

In 1875 the popularity of the New Year's call must have been at its height, judging from the number of cards preserved. That year J. J. Deck, A. C. Cass, O. W. Webster and C. S. Montgomery made the rounds together. Frank Sheldon, Charlie Hamlin and Rome Hurlburt were another group. A. J. Cropsey, J. H. McMurtry, W. H. Moore and D. W. Scott were another party whose

names appear together. Among other groups of four or five men who had cards, some plain and some appropriately decorated for the season, were the following: John M. Thayer, C. H. Gould, Silas Garber, C. H. Willard and W. P. Farwell; Charlie C. Caldwell, Ortha C. Bell, John A. Dodds and James M. Irwin; T. C. Kern, J. H. Harley, Doc Yeazel and L. W. Coates.

In 1890 a writer for the Lincoln Courier thus described the society of 1870:

"Twenty years ago card playing was not general. Progressive euchre was as yet an unrevealed fad of the future, and high five and razzle-dazzle, so dear to the heart of the modern card enthusiast, had not been dreamed of. The facilities for dancing of the young, and at that time (comparatively) wild western town, were very meagre; consequently there was very little social activity. There were, however, a few mansions in the pioneer days whose owners were wont to entertain on occasion small gatherings of friends, which without those incidental amusements so common today, were perhaps none the less agreeable. In those days the latest arrival was hail fellow well met with the oldest settler and what was lacking in ceremony was made up in perfect good will and universal friendliness.

"Many of those now in the swim can recall the old time assemblies in the ancient Tichenor House at Thirteenth and K, which was at that time a leading hotel and the greatest political rendezvous in the state. Early in the '70s there were some memorable gatherings in the Townley House, later removed from M Street near Thirteenth and the Atwood mansion which stood on the site of the present Journal Building. At the former, about 1873, there was a notable entertainment at which A. C. Ziemer and Charley Smails, then B. & M. ticket agent, furnished the amusement. These gentlemen operated a telegraph line from one room to another for the benefit of fond maidens and devoted youths, who kept the wire burdened with tender messages all evening.

"Nebraska City and Lincoln were united by a close bond of friendship in those days and the young people of the two towns saw a great deal of each other. Some of the trips to Nebraska City will be long remembered.

"Lincoln has boasted an 'opera house' so long that the memory of the oldest inhabitant runneth not to the contrary. Dramatic performances were given in the Academy of Music at Eleventh and O streets; but Hallo's Opera House was the most popular resort until it was rebuilt as the Centennial. Even as far back as fifteen years ago (written in 1890) strong attractions were common and society always turned out en masse when there was a 'show' in town. John McCullough, Mary Anderson, the Florences, Janauschek and Emma Abbot were among the eminent stars who were seen here over a decade ago. Richard Golden, Pauline Hall and Jessie Bartlett Davis were seen with Carleton before their reputations were made, and Marie Jansen and Francis Wilson also appeared here in the years ago. 'Chow Chow' as given by Adah Richmond in the Academy of Music, was a strong favorite with Lincoln playgoers and William Gill's 'Our Goblins,' of fifteen years ago was a great event. Kate Claxton, who assisted at the burning of so many theaters, was playing in the 'Two Orphans' at Hallo's fifteen seasons ago, when the theater was partially destroyed by fire.

"The early governors were little given to entertainments; but a number of receptions were given in the old capitol, and the chancellor's receptions were also leading events but a few years ago.

"Society proper has, for the last sixteen years, been largely represented by

the Pleasant Hour Club, probably the oldest social organization in the state. For an association dependent for perpetuation upon an annual reorganization to remain intact for more than a decade and a half is something very unusual. The Pleasant Hour Club has enjoyed a peculiar prosperity. Starting in a modest way, it has widened and broadened with time until it is now one of the most solidly established institutions of its kind to be found anywhere in the West. It stands for the active leading element in society, and its membership includes not only the younger class but a fair representation of those whose social position, long since determined, entitled them to lead in the affairs of the gay world.

"To R. H. Oakley probably belongs the honor of giving the club its name. He was present at its first meeting and at his suggestion it was dubbed 'Pleasant Hour.' There is some dispute as to the exact date of the club's origin, the official records extending only back to 1883, but as near as can be ascertained, it was organized in October, 1874, at a meeting held in H. J. Walsh's office. J. O. West, later of Grand Island, was elected president, and R. H. Oakley, vice president. The next year West was succeeded by Oakley, and then W. P. Farwell was made the executive. The latter died during his tenure of office, the unexpired term being completed by O. W. Webster. After Webster the following gentlemen were honored by election to the presidency of the club: J. D. Macfarland, Thomas Ewing, Charles M. Carter, Gordon H. Frinke and J. W. Irwin. This brings the record down to 1883, when for technical reasons the original constitution was readopted with some modifications, and the following officers elected: President, C. M. Carter; vice president, Frank C. Zehrung; secretary, D. C. Van Duyn; treasurer, R. C. Outcalt; executive committee, C. E. Magoon, R. H. Townley and C. S. Lippincott; master of ceremonies, W. H. Green. During the season of 1884-5, W. A. Green was president and was succeeded in 1885-6 by Frank C. Zehrung, in 1886-7 by A. G. Beeson, in 1887-8 by H. P. Foster, in 1888-9 by C. S. Lippincott, in 1889-90 by W. E. Hardy, who was followed by C. E. Magoon.

"The oldest consecutive member of the club was Frank C. Zehrung, who joined fifteen years ago. Among the most notable assemblies under the auspices of the club may be mentioned the ball opening the east wing of the state capitol, which was an event of peculiar importance at the time. The custom of giving a reception to newly married members has been observed almost from the foundation of the club.

"A junior branch of the Pleasant Hour existed for a few years but was merged into the regular club at the beginning of the season in 1890."

The Pleasant Hour Club was dissolved about 1900. Many of the original members were no longer in the city and others had become too engrossed with serious matters to take the interest in planning gay affairs that they had felt when younger.

#### THE CHARITY BALL

One of the social events of the year in Lincoln is the annual charity ball. The following account of the first reception of this kind held in Lincoln is taken from the columns of the State Journal and will supply unusual interest to those now living who were present at that time:

"The first charity ball ever given in Lincoln took place Tuesday, January 14,

1890, at the capitol and was described in the Capital City Courier on January 18th as 'The largest and, as a whole, the finest dancing party ever held in the capital city.' The account which appeared in the paper began with a Biblical quotation and a dissertation on the effects of the 'cry of distress' which were such as 'to even reach fashion, usually heartless to all that does not minister to its own pleasure,' and to cause pleasure and pity to clasp hands in friendly accord, and 'chase the shining hours with flying feet' on the floor of this same 'fashion.'

"Tucked away in an obscure corner headed, 'Echoes of the Ball' was the information that 1,900 invitations were issued and that the profits would be over five hundred dollars, perhaps nearer six hundred dollars. Miss Latta sold the greatest number of tickets and turned over \$155 to the committee. Miss Ziemer came second with \$145 and Miss Naomi Weaver was a good third with \$45.

"It was stated that A. C. Ziemer first suggested the ball and he was given credit for making the plans and seeing to the execution of them. A column was devoted to the description of Representative Hall where the dancing took place, and the corridors and nooks which has been arranged about the rotunda. Several columns were given to descriptions of the toilets of the ladies and an effort was made to secure a list of the names of all of the people who were present.

"The following tells of the appearance of Representative Hall on the great occasion:

"The gentlemen in charge were exceedingly fortunate in securing the use of the statehouse, which afforded magnificent accommodations and gave an added dignity and charm. The hall of the House of Representatives was used for dancing. The room had been in the hands of an experienced man for several days and was handsomely decorated. \* \* \* Conspicuous among the decorations were the national colors. The upper window back of the speaker's desk was hidden by a flag draped vertically. On either side was a huge flag spread out horizontally with the stars next the window. Each of the four corners was broken with another big flag draped vertically. Next to attract notice were two ropes of fir festooned in parallel lines, about five feet apart, around the walls of the hall. The upper rope was caught by loops thrown over the ornamental keystones in the window caps on three sides of the room. Across the gallery the posts served as points of attachment. An evergreen rope and two evergreen rings hanging from the loops mentioned supported the second parallel rope. In each of the angles made by the festoons hung a pendant rope with a tassel of fir at the end. The posts in the gallery were also twined with evergreen. The speaker's desk was draped with a flag, and an evergreen rope bridged the space between the two upright lamps. Wreaths of evergreen crowned the lamps on the chief clerk's desk, and similar garlands of holly ornamented the bracket gas jets in the three walls. Tufts of fir and holly relieved the panels between the upper and the lower tier of windows. The walls were hung with oil paintings loaned for the occasion and a cluster of evergreen branches reared their heads from the recess back of each picture. The windows were draped with lace and chenille curtains (also loaned), giving with the pictures, a homelike air to the big hall. The grand central chandelier was studded thickly with pendant festoons of evergreen and a bell of fir swung from the center by a rope just high enough to escape the heads of the dancers. The front of the gallery was hung with interlacing fir ropes. Midway of the two sides was the date, 'January 14,' in large letters of

ruby and gold on a dark background, the whole being bound in evergreen. But the gem of the decorations remains to be described. Across the east wall, over the speaker's desk, was a long, narrow panel outlined by a trimming of fir. Within the lines the panel was filled with snow white cotton. Peeping out of this soft pure bed were scores of glass bulbs, incandescent electric lamps, arranged to spell the word 'charity' in great luminous letters.

"The company began assembling at 8.30 o'clock and just an hour later a cornet call announced the grand march. Governor Thayer had consented to lead the march. He selected Mrs. A. C. Ziemer to assist him in that pleasing duty, and they made a very striking couple. The governor is a fine looking gentleman, of dignified bearing and an erect military carriage. Mrs. Ziemer looked queenly in a regal robe of black velvet, en traine, low neck and short sleeves, black mousquetaire gloves, diamonds, hand and corsage bouquets. As the governor and his lady stepped out upon the dancing floor the other participants formed in column after them. Violin and cornet and 'cello broke forth in a joyous fanfare, the word 'charity' flashed out upon the wall and flooded the already brilliant room with a white electric glow, the company burst into spontaneous applause at the beautiful sight—and Lincoln's first charity ball had begun.

"Some of the ladies attending and the brief descriptions of the gowns worn by them are given as follows:

"Miss Minnie Latta (Mrs. C. F. Ladd), pink faille and tulle, pearl trimmings, pink gloves, gold necklace; Miss Bertie Burr (Mrs. Beeman Dawes), yellow cashmere, trimmed with black velvet, black velvet girdle, diamonds; Miss Maud Burr (Mrs. Ross P. Curtice), black lace, low neck and short sleeves, tan gloves, diamonds and rubies; Mrs. Hickey, light pink silk and light green ribbon trimmings, fan; Martha Funke (Mrs. F. C. Howe), light blue china silk, accordion skirt, narrow ribbon trimmings, red roses, tan gloves, diamonds; Jeanette Wilson (Mrs. John T. Dorgan), white embroidered cashmere, white moire sash, tan gloves; Miss Hathaway (Mrs. J. S. Meadows), white mull with scarlet trimmings, scarlet sash and mitts, diamonds; Cora Hardy (Mrs. T. E. Calvert), scarlet cashmere, accordion skirt, ribbon trimmings, bonnet; Miss Carmody (Mrs. M. I. Aitkin), black henrietta, velvet trimmings, bonnet, diamonds; Maggie Mullon (Mrs. J. M. Thayer, Jr.), white skirt, pink and white striped overdress, pink roses; Gertie Laws (Mrs. W. E. Hardy), white silk accordion skirt and fluffy sleeves; Mrs. A. D. Burr, black silk, lace and diamonds; Maude Oakley (Mrs. Uppham of San Francisco), red cashmere, princess style, black velvet trimmings; Mrs. A. S. Raymond, white cashmere trimmed in brown velvet ribbons; Miss White (Mrs. Lew Marshall), gray cashmere embroidered in black; Miss Lau (Mrs. R. E. Giffen), gray cashmere, dark gray velvet trimmings, elbow sleeves, pink roses, tan gloves; Mrs. A. W. Jansen, pink faille, brocaded skirt, dainty ribbon trimmings, elbow sleeves, long tan gloves, diamonds, large feather fan; Miss Marquette (Mrs. James McAfee), yellow velvet and striped tulle, diamonds; Olive Latta (Mrs. Olive Watson), white cashmere, Persian trimmings, diamonds, pink rosebuds; Maude Mullon (Mrs. J. G. White)."

#### EARLY CLOTHES AND CLUBS

Dress suits and the various habiliments relative to twentieth century society are quite ordinary in Lincoln, but it is well within the memory of many citizens

when a swallow-tail was unknown and the appearance of a gentleman clad in this garb would have created unusual excitement and gossip.

Many authorities upon this rather unusual subject have honored George W. Farwell with the distinction of having worn the first dress suit in Lincoln, but this has been largely discredited. Thomas P. Kennard antedates Mr. Farwell in this respect. In the memory of one citizen Mr. Kennard was seen walking on the main street in a dress coat as early as 1874. Mr. Kennard's daughter, Mrs. C. F. Chapman, remembers her father as wearing a frock coat, black velvet vest and a silk hat. Mr. Kennard himself claims to have worn a dress coat indiscriminately, the same as any other article of apparel. Due to the character of the country here at that time, when men were building for future homes, and the City of Lincoln consisted of practically nothing, the people did not cater to particular styles, nor did they view any eccentricity of dress with undue alarm, as they are wont to do now.

However, Mr. Farwell still has the honor of having brought the first strictly dress suit to Lincoln, that is, a suit used solely for functions. This was in 1878, when he came to the city to live.

Social life was growing rapidly in Lincoln by that date. The Pleasant Hour Club, the dancing club to which the "blue bloods" belonged, met at regular intervals in the city hall, then located where the Fred Schmidt Building now stands. The ladies followed the styles of the East in simple evening dresses, while the men confined their dress to cutaways and Prince Alberts. The cost of a dress suit for a time was prohibitive, the price being anywhere from \$175 to \$225.

As Nebraska was settled with eastern people, they naturally brought with them the prevailing fashions in clothes. There was never anything provincial about the people of Lincoln. The women who remained in the state kept their clothes up-to-date by buying patterns and noting new ideas brought by the latest arrivals from the eastern cities. The Hohmann family, which settled in Lincoln in 1869, two years after the location of the capital here, put in a stock of Demorest patterns in their dry goods store and kept them for sale for about twenty years.

For many years the city churches performed the duties of social halls. Mrs. S. B. Hohmann, who came in 1876 to accept a position as leading singer for the First Presbyterian Church, said that she was always invited to sing at the other churches if anything special was given. Mrs. Hohmann was then Miss Helen Candee. Mrs. A. S. Raymond, then Miss Mollie Baird, was in charge of the music at the First Congregational Church. Miss Mattie Gerens and Miss Kate Gillette both sang at the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Hohmann recalled driving out in the country with Miss Madge Hitchcock, daughter of Professor Hitchcock of the university, the first summer in the state and on the day the grasshoppers came. The two girls heard the grasshoppers in the corn, but thought it must be the sound of the corn growing, of which phenomenon they had read. Upon reaching their destination Mrs. Hohmann left a wool shawl on a bed and the grasshoppers devoured it before she returned to get it.

In 1876 the women of Nebraska were wearing princess gowns with trains. For evening wear summer silk was used. The trained dresses were worn through the streets of Lincoln.

All of the early dances and all the traveling shows were held at Representa-



tive Hall in the capitol building. In 1873-74 the Pleasant Hour Club was holding dances at the Academy of Music, where the Rudge & Guenzel Building now stands, with such men as N. C. Brock, J. D. Macfarland, Charlie Carter, R. C. Outcalt and D. D. Muir in its membership. The club next met at the City Hall, then at the Masonic Temple at Eleventh and M streets, and then at the Lincoln Hotel. The club was disbanded about seventeen years ago, the membership having grown very small.

From an old program it is learned that the Matinee Musicale was preceded by an earlier music club. The program announces the fourth musicale of the Ladies' Musical and Social Club, entertained by Miss Tote McMurtry, Friday evening, March 11, 1887. Those taking part included: Miss Clara Funke (Mrs. Mansfield), Miss Tote McMurtry, Mrs. J. J. Manatt, Miss Minnie D. Cochran, Miss Minnie Latta (Mrs. C. F. Ladd), Miss Nannie Lillibridge, Mrs. C. S. Lippincott, Mrs. Carrie B. Raymond. The latter was the accompanist.

#### SOCIETIES

To the Independent Order of Odd Fellows belongs the honor of having established the first fraternal society within the City of Lincoln. Two of the members of the state commission to locate the capital were Odd Fellows in good standing; these were Governor David Butler and Secretary T. P. Kennard. The lodge first organized was Capital Lodge No. 11, and its charter was given to W. H. Stubblefield, Max Rich, Samuel McClay, L. A. Onyett and Samuel Leland. The lodge was instituted by George H. Burgert of Nebraska City, who was at that time grand master. Three members were received at that time—Luke Lavender, S. B. Pound and Seth Robinson. The lodge was instituted in the small second story of a frame building standing on the ground now known as 123 South Tenth Street. On October 18, 1870, at the meeting of the grand lodge in Lincoln, Charity Lodge No. 2, Daughters of Rebekah, was organized. On October 19th a reception was given the grand lodge and No. 2 by Governor Butler and his wife, an occasion attended by many gentlemen and ladies from Lincoln's society. Saline Encampment No. 4 was organized on April 7, 1871. By 1873 the need was felt for another lodge, and accordingly on June 5, 1873, Lancaster Lodge No. 39 was instituted with fifteen members. J. H. Harley was the first to be initiated. The next lodge, Germania No. 67, was instituted for those of the order who could speak German better than English. The lodge was instituted with ten charter members on December 11, 1877, by H. W. Parker of Beatrice, grand master. On March 29, 1881, a charter was granted for the degree lodge, and it was known as Magic Degree Lodge No. 2, but existed only a short time. On February 14, 1885, the Ford Uniformed Degree Camp No. 2 was instituted. In March, 1887, it was merged into the organization known as the Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F. During these years Lincoln was taking on size and more men desired to become members of the lodge, so, in order to accommodate those desirous of joining, a new lodge, known as Lincoln Lodge No. 138, was instituted on January 22, 1886. The first efforts to get ample quarters for the order in Lincoln were taken on May 3, 1881, when the Odd Fellows' Hall Association of Lincoln, Neb., was incorporated. Land was secured on the northeast corner

of L and Eleventh streets, and by the summer of 1882 a 4-story brick edifice was completed.

In 1868 the Knights of Pythias first invaded Lincoln. On August 28, 1871, Lincoln Lodge No. 8, K. of P., was instituted here. The lodge for a time flourished, but in 1873 financial reverses compelled the surrender of the charter. However, in December, a few of the former members petitioned for a new charter and this was granted December 3, 1873. The first meeting for initiation was held in the attic of the old opera house. The new lodge was known as Lincoln Lodge No. 16. In 1884, August 18th, Apollo Lodge No. 36 came into existence, composed in greater part of younger men than the other. A. D. Marshall Lodge No. 41 was organized June 18, 1885, with twenty-three members. Capital City Lodge No. 68 was instituted February 9, 1887. The Uniform Rank of the Knights of Pythias started in Lincoln in 1879 from the members of No. 16. There were thirty-two members at the start. A. D. Marshall Division No. 10 was organized September 28, 1886, with twenty-nine members. Apollo Division No. 11 was instituted October 11, 1886, with thirty members. The Knights of Pythias are represented now in Lincoln by the Grand Lodge of Nebraska, Lincoln Lodge No. 16, Lincoln Lodge No. 1, Uniform Rank, and North Star Temple No. 10, Pythian Sisters.

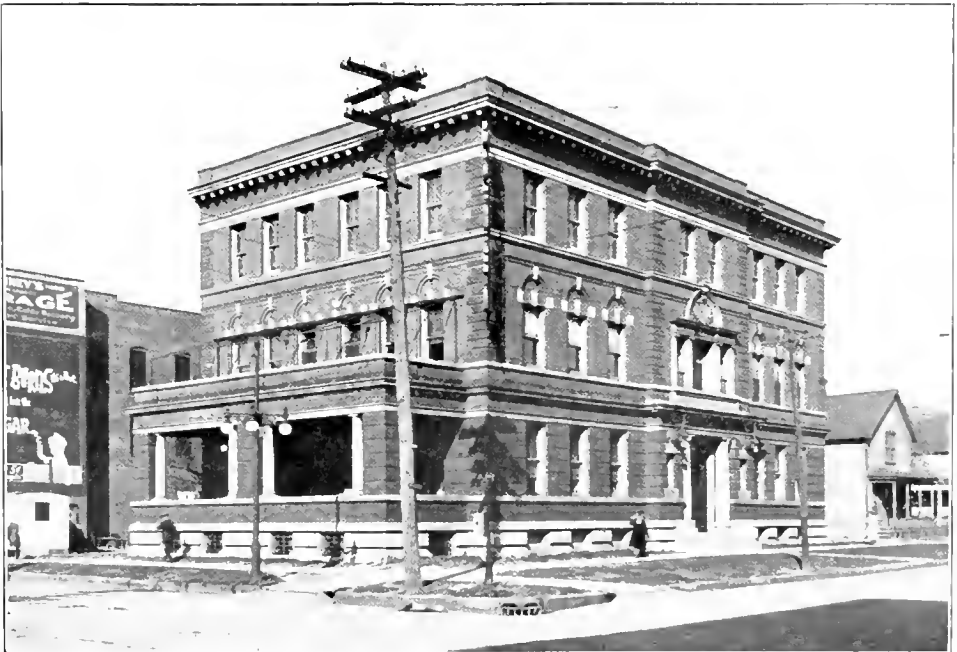
The Masons are well represented in Lincoln, there being seventeen distinct organizations. The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, its Territories and Dependencies, Lincoln Consistory No. 54, Chapter of Rose Croix, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, and a Lodge of Perfection were organized April 23, 1889, with fifty members, by Joseph McGrath of New Jersey, grand inspector general of the rite as organizer. A. D. 1807 Lincoln Lodge No. 19, York Rite, A. F. & A. M., was organized in 1868. Lancaster Lodge No. 54 was organized in 1874. Lincoln Chapter No. 6, R. A. M., was organized April 28, 1868. Mount Moriah Commandery No. 40, Knights Templar, was organized in 1871. The Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Sesostri's Temple, was organized in 1880. There are now in Lincoln, in addition to these, East Lincoln Lodge No. 210, A. F. & A. M.; George Washington Lodge No. 250, A. F. & A. M.; North Star Lodge, No. 227, A. F. & A. M.; Lincoln Council No. 4, R. & S. M.; Electa Chapter No. 8, O. E. S.; Lincoln Chapter No. 148; Martha Washington Lodge No. 153, O. E. S.; Lincoln Council No. 2; Knights of Kadosh, A. A. S. R. Among the colored people of the city there are the Lebanon Lodge No. 126, A. F. & A. M.; Hiram Chapter No. 59, R. A. M.; Amaranth Chapter No. 54, O. E. S.; Ricketts Commandery No. 14, K. T.; Magnolia Court No. 10, H. O. J.

On April 27, 1886, a lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America was organized in Lincoln, known as Capital City Camp No. 190. The lodge known as Antelope Camp No. 916 was instituted on April 4, 1889, with 100 names on the petition. F. D. Roose Camp No. 969, now inactive, was organized May 2, 1889. The head camp of the Modern Woodmen is located in Lincoln, as are also the Banner City Camp No. 1332, Belmont Camp No. 5293, Lincoln Camp No. 969, State of Nebraska Camp No. 2266.

There are two well-supported Grand Army of the Republic posts in Lincoln. The first is the Farragut Post, which was organized September 8, 1879. There were thirty-four charter members, namely: S. J. Alexander, L. W. Billingsley, R. C. Hazlett, Lyman Wood, A. D. Burr, W. S. Latta, Henry Masterman, W. A.



LINCOLN COMMERCIAL CLUB BUILDING



ELK'S CLUB BUILDING, LINCOLN



Daggett, D. B. Howard, G. K. Amory, C. H. Gere, A. P. Tarbox, J. E. Philpot, R. O. Phillips, Silas Sprague, W. R. Kelly, W. H. Beach, Sam McClay, P. A. Smith, W. J. Cooper, N. Carpenter, James Bolshaw, S. P. Richey, T. B. Dawson, Levi Gable, D. C. Reynolds, E. G. Clements, C. C. Harris, A. Masterman, J. Curry, M. L. Hiltner, J. W. Owens, Thomas Sewall and R. N. Wright. The first officers were: S. J. Alexander, commander; L. W. Billingsley, S. V. C.; C. H. Gould, J. V. C.; H. Masterman, chaplain; George K. Amory, adjutant; A. D. Burr, Q. M.; R. C. Hazlett, O. D.; Al. Masterman, O. G. At one time this post had over five hundred members in good standing.

The second post, Appomattox Post No. 214, was organized January 28, 1886, at which time the following officers were elected: Edgar S. Dudley, C.; H. A. Babcock, S. V. C.; W. W. W. Jones, J. V. C.; Brad P. Cook, adjutant; D. R. Lillibridge, Q. M.; L. E. Hicks, chaplain; J. O. Carter, surgeon; S. J. Alexander, O. D.; George B. Lane, O. G.; C. H. Gere, sergeant major; N. G. Franklin, Q. M. Serg.

Connected with the posts are Farragut Corps No. 10, W. R. C., and Appomattox Corps No. 128.

Other lodges represented in Lincoln are: The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Fraternal Aid Association, Fraternal Union of America, House of David of the World, Improved Order of Redmen, Knights and Ladies of Security, Knights of Columbus, Knights of the Maccabees, Loyal Mystic Legion of America, Order of Railway Conductors, Royal Highlanders, Royal Neighbors, Tribe of Ben Hur, Woodmen of the World, and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The following trade unions are located in the city: Barbers' Union No. 16, Bookbinders' Union No. 120, Bricklayers' Union No. 2, Carpenters' Union No. 1,055, Central Labor Union, Cigarmakers' Union, Federal Union, International Brotherhood of Electric Workers, Machinists' Union No. 698, Painters' Union No. 18, Plasterers' Union No. 22, Plumbers' Union No. 88, Pressmen's Union No. 16, Sheet Metal Workers' Union, Stereotypers' Union No. 62, Tailors' Union No. 273, Theatrical Employees' Union No. 151, and Typographical Union No. 209.

#### CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

The Young Men's Christian Association of Lincoln was organized in January, 1880, with thirteen members. The following officers were elected: A. O. Geisinger, president; Richard George, vice president; W. W. Peet, secretary; and M. L. Easterday, treasurer. James A. Dummett was the first general secretary, beginning his services on August 6, 1884. After a short time the association occupied rooms in the McConnell Block, 141 South Tenth Street, but when the membership approached the 500 mark, these quarters became too small, and on July 24, 1889, a contract was let for a new building at the corner of N and Thirteenth streets. The cornerstone was laid October 28, 1889. This building was sufficient until the year 1909, when the membership became so large that a new home was imperative. A campaign was started to raise sufficient funds for the promotion of the work, and by September, 1909, fully \$100,000.00 had

been raised for the new building. This was planned and constructed, and dedicated on June 4, 1911.

The Young Women's Christian Association was organized on November 7, 1886, in Lincoln, with just a few members. This sister association of the Young Men's Christian Association has had a steady growth, and in 1905 dedicated their new building in the city. The work of this association and that of the Young Men's Christian Association is a principal factor in the Christian work of Lincoln, and a very active one. Recreation, education, physical training, and social life are furnished men and women in large numbers, many of whom otherwise would not have the opportunity.

## CHAPTER XX

### MILITARY HISTORY OF LANCASTER COUNTY

The military history of Lancaster County may be said to have begun with the opening of the Spanish-American war, in April, 1898, although one man, Dr. Wesley Queen, went from Lancaster County in 1862 to join the Second Nebraska Cavalry at Nebraska City. Doctor Queen was not only the sole representative of the county in the Civil war, but was the first postmaster, having been appointed in 1862; the first physician; the founder of the first Sunday school and the founder of the first sanitarium. Doctor Queen was one of the first settlers of the county and participated in the first Fourth of July celebration here in 1861. Doctor Queen and his brother-in-law, John Wimple, walked through Omaha in 1860, when there were less than twenty houses in that town. They reached the Salt Creek basin in May of that year and the next spring the doctor opened the first sanitarium. He and other settlers constructed a bridge across Salt Creek for the steam wagon road from Nebraska City to Denver. As stated before Doctor Queen was appointed postmaster March 4, 1862, but in October of the same year he resigned the office to enlist in the Union army. Late the next year he returned and organized the first Sunday school between the Missouri River and Denver. Doctor Queen's death occurred late in the year 1915, at the age of seventy-nine.

In the Spanish-American war the State of Nebraska supplied three full regiments and a troop of cavalry to the United States volunteer forces. Of these four units the First Regiment experienced the most hazardous service and really were engaged with the enemy. The muster of the First Regiment, Nebraska Volunteer Infantry, was complete in the City of Lincoln on May 9, 1898, and immediately the regiment was ordered to entrain for San Francisco, Cal. The order was issued on May 16th and four days later the Nebraska boys arrived in the western city. The regiment encamped at Bay District, San Francisco, until June 15, 1898, when they embarked on the United States transport Senator for Manila, P. I. After a voyage of many hardships the transport reached Manila Bay on July 17th, whereupon the troops disembarked and encamped at Camp Dewey, just south of the City of Manila, on the 21st. After several days on outpost duty before the Spanish Fort Malate, the regiment engaged with other regiments in the general attack on Manila, August 13, 1898. From this time until December 4th of the same year, the regiment was comparatively inactive, being assigned to patrol duty in the Tondo District, which was near the noted custom house. On the 5th of December they went into camp at Santa Mesa, in the vicinity of Manila, and remained there until February 4, 1899, when they got their first taste of real battle. Heavy engagements

followed in quick order, which took a heavier toll from the First Nebraska than any other regiment in the Philippines with the exception of one regiment of regular United States troops. The following are the conflicts in which the First participated: Camp defense, February 4, 1899; capture of block houses, February 6th and 7th; powder magazine and Deposito, February 5th; capture of pumping station near Manila, February 6th; expelled rebels from Mariquina, February 17th; engagements on the Mariquina road, February 22d, 24th, 27th, March 5th and 6th; drove insurgents across Pasig River, March 7th; in advance on Malolos, March 25th-31st; in advance on Calumpit and San Fernando. The regiment was returned to Manila on May 18th and six companies were detached to the south line of San Pedro, Macati, and three companies to Pateros, the three remaining companies being relieved from duty. The First embarked on the United States transport A. T. Hancock, on June 22d, sailing with the Utah Battery for San Francisco, via Nagasaki and Yokohama, Japan, and arrived at their destination July 29th. The soldiers went into camp at the Presido the next day and were there mustered out of the United States service on August 23d. The casualties of the First Nebraska were as follows: Killed in battle, 21; died of wounds, 13; died of disease, 30; total loss, 64 men.

The citizens of Nebraska began a movement to return the soldiers to their homes and to this end solicited subscriptions. The sum of \$40,342.75 was raised within a short time, David E. Thompson, of Lincoln, giving \$20,000 and William J. Bryan, \$1,250. The regiment left Frisco on August 25th and on September 14th were accorded to patriotic reception by the citizens of Lincoln. The day was spent in honor to those who had returned and in respect to those who gave their lives for their country. The Legislature of 1901 made an appropriation of \$36,315.45, the amount expended to return the soldiers from San Francisco, and ordered that the same be given back to the men who had so willingly subscribed funds.

The Second Regiment, Nebraska Volunteer Infantry, entered the service of the United States on April 27, 1898. After the muster in was completed the regiment was ordered to Chickamauga Park, Georgia. They left Lincoln on Thursday, May 19th, and arrived at Camp Thomas May 22d. Here they remained until August 31st, then left for Omaha, arriving on September 3d. The men were mustered out on the 24th of October, 1898. The regiment suffered twenty-six deaths from disease and one by accident.

The Third Regiment, Nebraska Volunteer Infantry, was organized at Omaha and mustered in July 3, 1898. On July 18th the regiment was transported to Jacksonville, Florida, and four days later arrived and encamped at Panama Park, Camp Cuba Libre. The regiment became part of the first brigade, third division, seventh army corps. On September 9th the regiment was removed to Pablo Beach, Florida. On October 2d they were forced out of camp by the ocean flooding the camp during a severe windstorm and two days afterward returned to Jacksonville and became part of the first brigade, first division, seventh army corps. On October 24th they moved to Camp Onward, Savannah, Georgia, and then to Havana, Cuba, on the transport Obdam, also transport Michigan. The troops left on the 30th and 31st of December and arrived on the 1st and 2d of January. They were quartered with the seventh army corps at Camp Colum-



bia, Havana, until April 7th, then embarked on the United States transport Logan; were in quarantine at Daufuskie, South Carolina, and on the 18th embarked for Savannah. On the 19th they left for Augusta, Georgia, and were there mustered out at Camp Mackenzie. Thirty-two men of the regiment died of disease during their term of service.

Troop K, Third Regiment, United States Volunteer Cavalry, located at Milford, Nebraska, was enrolled in the United States service on May 7, 1898, and were mustered in at Lincoln, Nebraska, on May 14th. On May 20th the troop left for Chickamauga Park, Georgia, and remained there until mustered out, September 8, 1898. Two men died of disease.

As the roster following will show, the First Regiment was the only one from Nebraska suffering any casualties from battle. Their loss was unusually heavy. In all the regiments disease was too prevalent and the opinion prevailed that had better sanitary conditions been observed and the men better cared for, such would not have been the case. Many and often were the protests by the enlisted men, not only against their physical condition, but against the treatment accorded them by certain officers. The case of Col. John M. Stotsenburg is a notable one. He was criticized very freely by his men, and by Nebraskans in general, for his methods of handling troops, his treatment of the men under him. The protest grew to such proportions that it was officially presented at Washington and investigated. Many things were chalked up against his record, things which are useless to record here, but whatever may have been his faults and mistakes he paid the highest price at Quingua within his power, when on April 23, 1899 he was killed by an enemy's bullet. Colonel Stotsenburg's body was brought to this country and for a time lay in state in the state capitol of Nebraska at Lincoln and was then interred in the national cemetery at Arlington. Colonel Stotsenburg had been a military instructor at the University of Nebraska prior to the war.

Following is the roster of soldiers who enlisted in 1898 from Lancaster County.

## ROSTER OF LANCASTER COUNTY SOLDIERS IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

### FIRST REGIMENT, NEBRASKA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

#### *Field, Staff and Band*

Stotsenburg, John M., colonel. Age, 39. Lincoln. Mustered in as major, May 10, 1898. Killed at Quingua, P. I., on April 23, 1899.

Eager, Frank D., adjutant. Age, 25. Lincoln. Promoted captain Company H, May 10, 1898.

Wilson, Lincoln, quartermaster. Age, 37. Lincoln. Promoted captain Company M, June 16, 1898.

Snyder, Frank D., surgeon. Age, 41. Lincoln.

Mailley, James, chaplain. Age, 38. University Place.

Whedon, Bert D., sergeant-major. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private Company H. Promoted second lieutenant Company C, June 16, 1898.

White, Sherman A., sergeant-major. Age, 21. Lincoln. Appointed quarter-

master-sergeant May 12, 1898. Promoted second lieutenant Company E, November 10, 1898.

Ryan, Lewis S., quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 22. Lincoln. Promoted from rank of corporal. Mustered as private.

Pederson, Martin, trumpeter. Age, 24. Bennett.

*Company A*

Privates

Goodrich, George E. Age, 22. Lincoln.

Owings, John A. Age, 25. Bethany.

Reddick, Harvey C. Age, 23. Bethany.

*Company B*

Oury, William H., captain. Age, 27. Lincoln. Assigned by secretary of war to Twenty-third United States Infantry.

Robbins, Charles B., first sergeant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Pillsbury, Edward A., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Jewett, Perry W., corporal. Age, 21. Waverly.

Privates

Andrews, Charles J. Age, 21. Lincoln.

Beck, George L. Age, 21. Lincoln.

Burk, John M. Age, 22. University Place.

Buckles, Everett E. Age, 25. University Place.

Broady, Bracton. Age, 22. Lincoln.

Comstock, Walter M. Age, 23. Lincoln.

Durham, Charles R. Age, 20. Lincoln.

England, William H. Age, 21. Lincoln.

Edlund, Gustave E. Age, 26. University Place. Killed February 5, 1899.

Ewing, Vern D. Age, 19. Lincoln.

Hisey, Albert S. Age, 25. Lincoln.

Jewett, Dexter T. Age, 24. Waverly.

Jewett, Perry W. Age, 21. Waverly.

Kellogg, Ira A. Age, 24. Lincoln.

Playford, William E. Age, 22. Lincoln.

Rose, Forest. Age, 18. Lincoln.

Rose, Jesse, Age, 21. Lincoln.

Rymer, William T. Age, 21. Normal.

Rebmann, Jerry. Age, 29. Lincoln.

Shurtz, William W. Age, 21. Lincoln.

Smith, Aaron J. Age, 21. Lincoln.

Snider, George W. Age, 23. Lincoln.

Waite, John W. Age, 25. Lincoln.

*Company C*

## Privates

Chevront, Byron E. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Chevront, James W. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Franklin, C. M. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
Smock, Harry O. Age, 21. Lincoln.

*Company D*

Herpolsheimer, Martin, captain. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
Cosgrave, P. James. Age, 26. Lincoln. Enrolled and mustered into Company F, Second Regiment, as sergeant, on May 10, 1898.  
Russell, Phil., second lieutenant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private in Company K, Second Regiment.  
Wolf, Frank, first sergeant. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
Tate, Sanford H., sergeant. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
DeVriendt, Jerome H., sergeant. Age, 22. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Shafer, William A., sergeant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as corporal.  
Hessler, Earle, sergeant. Age, 18. Lincoln. Mustered as corporal.  
Clapp, Hugh E., corporal. Age, 19. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Barrow, Frank J., corporal. Age, 18. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Pascal, Frank A., corporal. Age, 18. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Dungan, William D., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Coberly, Frederic F., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Knapp, Charles T., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Linderman, Eugene D., musician. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
O'Shea, Edward J., musician. Age, 23. Lincoln.

## Privates

Abbott, Richard L. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Alley, John S. Age, 28. Lincoln. Died of wounds received at the water-works, Manila, P. I., February 22, 1899.  
Ames, Charles P. Age, 18. Lincoln. Discharged June 6, 1898.  
Auterson, George. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Bates, George W. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Beman, Selby R. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Bivins, Burton W. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Blake, Harold K. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Blake, Harry. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Berger, Harry A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Bloom, John J. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Blanchard, George L. Age, 21. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps, U. S. A., June 13, 1898.  
Caldwell, Alfred D. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Clapp, Hugh E. Age, 19. Lincoln. Appointed corporal, May 20, 1898.

- Coberly, Fred F. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Colwell, Arthur B. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Cook, Ernest B. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Curtin, Eugene W. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Carlyle, John J. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Day, Ernest W. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
Delong, George D. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
DeVriendt, Jerome H. Age, 22. Lincoln. Appointed sergeant, May 20, 1898.  
Dungan, William D. Age, 23. Lincoln. Appointed corporal, May 20, 1898.  
Enslow, John T. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Fassett, Fred L. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Fields, Ralph C. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Fitchie, Harry E. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Fitchie, Samuel B. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Francis, Albert E. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Fisk, Harry C. Age, 19. Lincoln. Died at Honolulu, H. I., about June 27, 1898.  
Franklin, Edward, Jr. Age, 21. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps, U. S. A., June 13, 1898.  
Gallagher, Henry. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Gillmore, Thomas E. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Glaze, Albert A. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Grayson, William W. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Gretzer, John, Jr. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Gullion, Charles A. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Hawes, Fred M. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
Hawksworth, Thomas W. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
James, Richard C. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Kemmerer, Albert L. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Kasharek, John. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
Kock, Julius. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
Lundholm, Martin O. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Lampert, David. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Mason, Cyrus P. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
McInay, Arthur. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Martin, William H. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Meyer, Edward. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Muff, Benjamin J. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Noack, Theodore B. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Neufeldt, Eric. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Payne, Robert B. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
Pierce, Eugene H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Peterson, Edwin O. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
Robertson, Thomas R. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Scholes, Frank P. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Shoaf, James W. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Shoaf, Randall S. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Sizer, Edward R., Jr. Age, 23. Lincoln.

Stoner, Lee H. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Scott, Jay C. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Shellhorn, E. G. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Smith, George W. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Stern, Herman. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Swartz, Charles M. Age, 24. Lincoln. Died of wounds, April 24, 1899  
 Traver, Frank L. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 White, Bert E. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Wood, B. J. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Woodard, Maynard. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Westover, John. Age, 19. Lincoln.

#### Recruits

Brown, John H. Age, 26. Havelock.  
 Evans, Henry. Age, 32. Firth.  
 Tucker, William L. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Wagner, Fred R. Age, 27. Firth.  
 Weaver, James A. Age, 23. Lincoln.

#### *Company E*

Tellesen, Charles C., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln.

#### Privates

Barkley, Alexander. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Cook, William G. S. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Friel, Walter M. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Tobias, John G. Age, 28. Lincoln.

#### *Company F*

Gallagher, Joseph P., sergeant. Age, 26. Lincoln. Mustered as corporal.

#### Privates

Brown, Carl R. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Corey, Charles H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Cowardin, P. L. Age, 36. Lincoln.  
 Gilbert, Alvin W. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Gunter, Harry A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Hall, Daniel C. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Keeney, John D. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
 Robertson, William J. N. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Whitney, Charles L. Age, 35. Lincoln.

#### *Company G*

Harvey, Oscar L., private. Age, 22. Lincoln.

*Company H*

Eager, Frank D., captain. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as first lieutenant.  
Hull, A. M., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Ryan, L. S., corporal. Age, 22. Lincoln. Mustered as private. Promoted  
R. Q. M. September 16, 1898.

## Privates

Brisbin, L. H. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Erret, Charles. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
Meier, Otto W. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
Ondrak, John J. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Ryan, Lewis S. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Thompson, George E. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Towl, G. E. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Winagel, A. J. Age, 27. Lincoln.

*Company I*

Hansen, Christian, first lieutenant. Age, 36. Bennett.  
Smith, Andrew C., second lieutenant. Age, 45. Bennett.  
Ell, John C., first sergeant. Age, 45. Bennett.  
Anderson, Frank, quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 23. Bennett.  
May, Arthur L., sergeant. Age, 24. Bennett.  
Buckley, Walter, sergeant. Age, 32. Bennett.  
Rudge, Edward C., corporal. Age, 28. Bennett.  
Sobotka, Frank, corporal. Age, 29. Bennett.  
Hensley, Hugh A., corporal. Age, 22. Bennett.  
Vosburgh, Clyde, corporal. Age, 25. Bennett.  
Hatsell, Leon V., musician. Age, 29. Bennett.  
Knox, Daniel, musician. Age, 25. Bennett.

## Privates

Akin, Malcolm. Age, 23. Bennett.  
Bensel, Herman. Age, 18. Bennett.  
Berndtson, John E. Age, 22. Bennett.  
Bonebright, Henry. Age, 22. Bennett.  
Bordwell, Frank J. Age, 22. Bennett.  
Brady, John D. Age, 23. Bennett.  
Brant, Roy B. Age, 21. Bennett.  
Carrell, James A. Age, 27. Bennett.  
Carsey, John H. Age, 28. Bennett.  
Clark, Edward. Age, 28. Bennett.  
Currier, A. B. Age, 21. Bennett.  
Dukes, Perry B. Age, 21. Bennett.  
Dunn, Lucian A. Age, 30. Bennett.

Erisman, Alfred J. Age, 27. Bennett. Died at brigade hospital, Manila, P. I., on October 23, 1898.

Fifer, George. Age, 23. Bennett.

Finke, William J. Age, 21. Bennett.

Fisher, Anton B. Age, 24. Bennett.

Fisher, Joseph. Age, 22. Bennett.

Foss, Leonard C. Age, 26. Bennett.

Frazier, Clark W. Age, 18. Bennett.

Fricke, Albert W. Age, 21. Bennett.

Gregg, Edwin F. Age, 28. Bennett.

Hall, Samuel R. Age, 27. Bennett. Transferred to hospital corps, U. S. A., June 13, 1898.

Ham, William G. Age, 23. Bennett.

Hawkins, Frank O. Age, 19. Bennett.

Henderson, Dallas. Age, 22. Bennett.

Hoge, Jesse L. Age, 19. Bennett.

Hoge, Herbert. Age, 22. Bennett.

Honnor, William M. Age, 23. Bennett.

Holbrook, Asa. Age, 21. Bennett.

Hammond, Creed C. Age, 24. Normal.

Jean, John M. Age, 26. Bennett.

Jewell, John E. Age, 23. Bennett.

Johnson, Erick A. Age, 29. Bennett.

Jones, Oliver J. Age, 27. Bennett.

Keenan, James T. Age, 21. Bennett.

Kennedy, Alvin. Age, 27. Bennett.

Kinnison, A. J. Age, 31. Bennett.

Knudson, Charles. Age, 22. Bennett.

Laird, Lewis M. Age, 21. Bennett.

Lightner, Lewis C. Age, 22. Bennett.

Madson, Peter. Age, 26. Bennett.

McCart, Henry O. Age, 25. Bennett. Killed April 25, 1899.

McFry, David. Age, 30. Bennett.

McFry, Albert. Age, 28. Bennett.

Mead, Benjamin S. Age, 22. Bennett.

Merritt, Daniel H. Age, 36. Bennett.

Miller, William D. Age, 30. Bennett.

Mills, Robert. Age, 28. Bennett.

Maddox, William. Age, 26. Bennett.

McCarthy, Cornelius. Age, 23. Normal.

Oakes, Mars. Age, 19. Bennett.

O'Connor, Frank. Age, 21. Bennett.

Passmore, Lewis D. Age, 23. Bennett. Died October 4, 1898, at sea on board United States Transport Rio Janeiro. Buried at sea October 8th.

Rodstrom, Lambert. Age, 24. Bennett.

Roberts, E. R. Age, 23. Bennett.

Russell, John. Age, 25. Bennett.

Shaffer, Charles E. Age, 18. Bennett.

Sherman, Oscar. Age, 21. Bennett.  
Slaughter, Guy T. Age, 21. Bennett.  
Taylor, Albert C. Age, 18. Bennett.  
Trimble, John. Age, 19. Bennett.  
Varney, Ralph. Age, 22. Bennett.  
Wood, Frank. Age, 28. Bennett.  
Wright, Elmer J. Age, 26. Bennett.

#### Recruits

Andrew, Howard L. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Dowd, Charles P. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Farling, Jesse I. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Gregg, Alva V. Age, 28. Pleasant Hill.  
Gregg, John L. Age, 27. Pleasant Hill.  
Harvey, George E. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Lamb, Scott O. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Lewis, Charles A. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
McFry, Charles P. Age, 40. Bennett.  
Poska, Albert. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Panghorn, L. W. Age, 36. Lincoln.  
Powell, George W. Age, 23. Lincoln.

#### *Company K*

Lawless, Ed J. Age, 31. Lincoln.

#### *Company M*

Wilson, Lincoln, captain. Age, 37. Lincoln. Mustered as R. Q. M.

#### Privates

Burk, Henry N. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
Peters, F. W. Age, 19. Lincoln.

#### Unassigned Recruits

Abbott, L. J., Jr. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
Chapman, A. R. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Coleman, E. D. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
Dean, F. E. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
Kelly, L. F. Age, 40. Lincoln.  
Miller, H. C. Lincoln.  
Mumford, E. H. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Ryan, F. G. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Yomans, A. H. Age, 25. Lincoln.



## SECOND REGIMENT, NEBRASKA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

*Company A*

Paine, Lewis A., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

## Privates

Barnell, Claude. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Boynton, Edgar G. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Cole, Fred A. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Forman, David A. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Frederick, Jacob. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Harrold, Harry R. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Hitchcock, Andrew. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Joyce, Harry E. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Kierstead, Henry J. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Miller, Ned K. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
Packwood, Arthur T. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Paine, Lewis A. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Roseboom, Jesse J. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
White, William A. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Walker, Ollie. Age, 28. Lincoln.

*Company B*

## Privates

Boyd, William. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Erwin, Jason R. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Green, Ernest G. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Keith, I. E. Age, 23. Lincoln.

*Company D*

## Privates

Churchill, Kenneth A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Fenn, Clarence L. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Gregg, John K. Age, 21. Lincoln. Died at his home September 25, 1898,  
of typhoid fever.  
Grimm, Arthur. Age, 21. Lincoln. Transferred to Company E, Third  
Regiment, N. V. I.  
Kelsey, James. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
O'Connor, John P. Age, 23. Havelock. Transferred to Hospital Corps June  
12, 1898. Transferred to Second Regiment August 31, 1898.  
Semmelroth, Emil H. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
Sawyer, Nelson A. Age, 19. Lincoln. Died of fever July 3, 1898, at  
Chickamauga Park, Georgia.  
Wilson, Hugh. Age, 21. Normal. Promoted sergeant.  
White, Henry G. Age, 18. Lincoln.

## Recruits

Alloway, G. M. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Bilger, Robert. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Leidigh, O. G. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Nelson, A. L. Age, 24. Davey.  
 Reed, W. D. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Sweeney, James. Age, 34. Lincoln.  
 Tippey, Walter. Age, 21. Lincoln.

*Company F*

Campbell, Arthur E., captain. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
 Wilson, Lincoln, first lieutenant. Age, 37. Lincoln. Promoted R. Q. M. First Regiment, N. V. I., by governor.  
 Gascoigne, George E., first lieutenant. Age, 34. Lincoln. Mustered as second lieutenant.  
 Clark, William B., second lieutenant. Age, 27. Lincoln. Mustered as first sergeant.  
 Streight, Edward J., first sergeant. Age, 27. Lincoln. Mustered as sergeant.  
 Anderson, John E., quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Cosgrave, P. James, sergeant. Age, 26. Lincoln. Promoted first lieutenant Company D, First Regiment, N. V. I.  
 Bolshaw, Frederick J., sergeant. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Nelson, George H., sergeant. Age, 33. Lincoln.  
 Ringer, Frank L., sergeant. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as corporal.  
 Weeks, Charles W., sergeant. Age, 22. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Camp, L. H., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Howland, William H., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Brooks, William I., corporal. Age, 30. Lincoln.  
 Avery, C. P., corporal. Age, 27. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Barber, James C., corporal. Age, 19. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Bowman, Lee W., corporal. Age, 26. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Brown, A. L., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Clark, Charles C., corporal. Age, 28. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Deemer, Robert E., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Gordon, Anthony E., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Hamilton, E. C., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Ludwig, F. W., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Cochrane, A. W., artificer. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
 Waldron, Dan J., musician. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Walt, Edward J., musician. Age, 21. Lincoln.

## Privates

Baand, Alfred C. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Beachly, John V. Age, 25. Lincoln. Promoted hospital steward.  
 Boggs, Thomas W. Age, 33. Lincoln.

- Byer, Warren J. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
 Beachly, H. H. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Clewell, F. H. C. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Clondon, C. C. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Cooper, H. L. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Crofton, George. Age, 24. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps and later to Second Regiment.  
 Clifton, William H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Dean, Charles H. Age, 28. Lincoln. Discharged September 11, 1898.  
 Daily, Rude. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Edson, Melvin E. Age, 23.  
 Goodwill, Louis M. Age, 21. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps, Third Corps.  
 Genau, Henry H. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Griffiths, M. F. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Hall, James H. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Halstead, William L. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Hamilton, A. J. Age, 28. Lincoln. Discharged August 18, 1898.  
 Hewett, Harlow. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Hoyt, Charles S. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Hurd, Fred E. Age, 24. Lincoln. Discharged August 18, 1898.  
 Hyde, Fred C. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Hedges, H. W. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Hall, W. H. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Hill, H. S. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Jackson, Guy M. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Jenks, R. G. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Johnson, Charles. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Jones, S. S. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Jackson, E. O. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Kerlin, Charles W. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Lafferty, L. M. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Leonard, Sherman. Age, 19. Lincoln. Transferred, Company M, Third Regiment, N. V. I.  
 Linder, William T. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Ludwig, Walter E. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Langworthy, S. C., Jr. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Long, William T. Age, 39. Lincoln.  
 McClay, William L. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
 Miller, Charles A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Merryman, William A. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Milmine, E. K. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Mitchell, H. D. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 North, Jacob H. Age, 32. Lincoln.  
 North, Samuel W. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Newton, Harry F. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Pace, Ike E. O. Age, 24. Lincoln. Transferred to Company A, Third Regiment, N. V. I.

Palmer, George M. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Ryons, A. B. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Smith, Charles A. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Steele, Walter E. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Sullivan, Joseph L. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Schlegel, A. H. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Vance, Frederic C. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Wardner, George H. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Westermann, Fritz. Age, 33. Lincoln.  
 Weyant, F. A. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Wilson, N. P. Age, 28. Lincoln.

#### Recruits

Bostater, George, Jr. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Burk, C. E. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Byers, F. H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Conkling, A. C. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Garfield, C. A. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Griswold, E. H. Age, 40. Waverly.  
 Gump, B. F. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Gump, C. E. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Hahn, R. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Harper, I. L. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Hiff, R. K. Age, 18. University Place.  
 Kier, S. L. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Lyman, H. C. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Lueke, F. R. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
 McKenna, T. M. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Parks, E. S. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Polsky, Samuel. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Sawyer, R. R. Age, 25. Davey.  
 Tucker, F. H. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Warren, H. P. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Wilson, H. E. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Winters, C. W. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Zediker, Z. D. Age, --. Lincoln. Transferred from Company I, First Florida Infantry.

#### *Company H*

Westermann, Louis A., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Watson, Charles D., corporal. Age, 32. Lincoln. Mustered as private and serked as cook.

#### Privates

Clancy, William E. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Davis, C. S. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
 Foster, E. W. Age, 22. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps.

Gardiner, Earl. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Hershey, Will L. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Johnston, George H. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
Johnston, S. R. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
King, William B. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Perry, H. N. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
Smith, Thomas E. Age, 33. Lincoln.  
Sharp, Robert F. Age, 21. Lincoln.

*Company I*

Giblin, John S., corporal. Age, 31. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Privates

Dean, Charles R. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Dillon, Robert E. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Gay, Asa L. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
McDonald, John A. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
Manchester, M. A. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Penland, John W. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Pierce, William A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Schooler, John H. Age, 21. Firth.  
Shumaker, Ernest. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Way, Reuben, D. Age, 44. Lincoln.

*Company K*

Haggard, Ralph W., sergeant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Russell, Phillip W., sergeant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Discharged and appointed second lieutenant, Company D, First Regiment, N. V. I.  
Hill, John T., corporal. Age, 28. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Jones, Leroy, corporal. Age, 22. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Lunn, Thomas D., corporal. Age, 22. Lincoln. Discharged September 13, 1898.  
Schroeder, F. W., corporal. Age, 28. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Smatlan, Joseph E., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Morris, Ora E., wagoner. Age, 22. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Privates

Burt, Oliver W. Age, 22. Lincoln. Died at Clay Center, Neb., October 8, 1898, of typhoid fever.  
Curtis, Michael A. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Erickson, F. T. Age, 23. Lincoln. Transferred, First Division, Third Corps, at Camp Thomas.  
Fairmen, R. L. Age, 24. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps and made acting hospital steward. Also transferred to Second Regiment, N. V. I.

Gardner, George. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Graham, W. F. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
Higgins, Charles N. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Hurd, D. J. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Jansa, Frank. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Jira, Frank. Age, 30. Lincoln.  
Johnson, A. S. Age, 23. Lincoln. Discharged September 13, 1898.  
Jones, Samuel R. Age, 33. Lincoln.  
Jones, Archie B. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Koert, E. H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Langer, J. F. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Longnecker, R. H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
McNay, James F. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
McCormick, William. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Nemecek, Thomas H. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Olsen, Ore E. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Piquett, James M. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Seelig, Fred. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Selzer, George. Age, 30. Lincoln.  
Simodynes, F. J. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Stewart, G. O. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Severin, Henry A. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Templeton, Daniel. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Templeton, Perry J. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Vaughan, John. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Watson, James. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
Wolf, Joseph. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
Wilson, M. G. Age, 26. Lincoln.

#### Recruits

Engler, H. W. Age, 31. Lincoln.  
Shoaf, John R. Age, 18. University Place.  
Skinner, K. I. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Skinner, E. N. B. Age, 18. Lincoln.

#### *Company L*

McKin, Loomis L., quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 26. Lincoln.

#### *Company M*

Hitchman, J. C., first sergeant. Age, 24. Lincoln. Discharged September 19, 1898.

Chapin, Edward T., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Christie, B. W., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Pearse, A. S., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Peck, Harry J., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as private.  
Wiggins, Frank E., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

## Privates

Bogert, Edward L. Age, 37. Lincoln.  
 Burr, F. S. Age, 28. Lincoln. Discharged August 29, 1898.  
 Calder, R. G. Age, 23. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Cottle, Louis E. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Fall, P. C. Age, 26. Lincoln.  
 Ferguson, C. H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Flick, Odis. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Gordon, John L. Age, 21. Lincoln. Transferred to Hospital Corps.  
 Lambert, James M. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Lane, William H. Age, 40. Lincoln.  
 Moore, Fred E. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 O'Shea, Vincent H. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Richardson, Nete. Age, 21. Lincoln. Discharged, disability.  
 Sprague, Richard. Age, 27. Lincoln. Died August 8, 1898, at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, of typhoid fever.  
 Steele, Duncan C. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Thorp, Harry G. Age, 30. Lincoln.  
 Whitmore, John E. Age, 26. Lincoln. Transferred to United States Volunteer Signal Corps.  
 Wolf, Fred. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Yeatman, G. E. Age, 27. Lincoln.

## THIRD REGIMENT, NEBRASKA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

*Field and Staff*

Bryan, William Jennings, colonel. Age, 38. Lincoln. Resigned December 12, 1898.  
 Viquain, Victor, colonel. Age, 55. Lincoln. Mustered as lieutenant-colonel.  
 McClay, John H., lieutenant-colonel. Age, 54. Lincoln. Mustered as major.  
 Beck, Charles F., adjutant. Age, 38. Lincoln.  
 Schwind, William F., quartermaster. Age, 33. Lincoln.  
 Pulis, Charles C., sergeant-major. Age, 24. Lincoln. Promoted second lieutenant, Company 1, Third Regiment, N. V. I.  
 Hortquest, Otis F., steward. Age, 27. Lincoln.  
 Abel, Richard C., musician. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Browne, R. S., musician. Age, 43. Lincoln.

*Company A*

Schwarz, Charles F., captain. Age, 25. Lincoln.  
 Ralston, George S., first lieutenant. Age, 43. Lincoln.  
 Morrison, E. R., second lieutenant. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Gildersleeve, H. J., quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 37. Lincoln.  
 Johnson, V. O., sergeant. Age, 26. Lincoln.

Stein, H. L., sergeant. Age, 20. Lincoln. Appointed first sergeant.  
 West, R. B., sergeant. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Pinkham, James P., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Steinbach, George, corporal. Age, 27. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Felber, C. D., corporal. Age, 21. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Robertson, John H., corporal. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
 Dority, James M., corporal. Age, 25. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Hanson, C. F., corporal. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
 Barr, John M., corporal. Age, 20. Lincoln. Reduced to ranks.  
 Marscey, William E., wagoner. Age, 29. Lincoln.  
 Lenker, C. F., musician. Age, 21. College View.  
 Ball, William A., artificer. Age, 27. Lincoln. Deserted July 10, 1898.

#### Privates

Barth, William. Age, 35. Lincoln.  
 Bowman, C. W. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
 Clark, William H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Dogny, P. A. Age, 20. Lincoln. Appointed wagoner.  
 Dunkle, George W. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Fritz, C. W. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Gaussoin, C. H. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Harris, Van Teil C. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Heggblade, Emil. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Johnson, J. O. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Kennedy, M. P. Age, 28. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Kucera, Frank. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Linard, F. C. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Lyons, H. H. Age, 23. Lincoln.  
 Leidigh, O. G. Age, 19. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Maher, Thomas F. Age, 26. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Mendenhall, J. M. Age, 19. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Myers, William. Age, 28. Lincoln.  
 Michael, William. Age, 26. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Miller, William A. Age, 36. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Orlofsky, Samuel. Age, 21. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Pace, Ike E. O. Age, 24. Lincoln. Transferred from Company F, Second Regiment, N. V. I.  
 Polsky, Bert. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Prieskorn, Edward. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Ray, A. L. Age, 21. College View.  
 Schlegel, Paul. Age, 19. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Spelman, A. J. Age, 18. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Spencer, A. N. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
 Stephens, J. E. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
 Trombly, Warden F. A. Age, 22. Lincoln. Discharged.  
 Von Busch, William. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
 Walker, George A. Age, 19. Lincoln.



*Company E*

Knutson, Anton H., corporal. Age, 22. Lincoln.

## Privates

Connor, Charles J. Age, 31. Waverly.

Grimm, Arthur. Age, 21. Lincoln.

*Company H*

Hall, George E., second lieutenant. Age, 24. Lincoln. Promoted from first sergeant.

Lytel, James L., sergeant. Age, 25. Lincoln.

*Company I*

Pulis, Charles C., second lieutenant. Age, 24. Lincoln. Promoted from sergeant-major.

## Private

Watkins, Albert, Jr. Age, 19. Lincoln. Discharged October 20, 1898.

*Company K*

Shuff, Carl L., first lieutenant. Age, 21. Lincoln. Resigned November 29, 1898.

Brown, Guy M., corporal. Age, 18. Lincoln.

*Company M*

Leonard, Sherman. Age, 19. Lincoln. Transferred from Company I. Second Regiment, N. V. I.

## TROOP K, THIRD REGIMENT, UNITED STATES VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

Cameron, Simon, quartermaster-sergeant. Age, 38. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Raymond, S. E., corporal. Age, 18. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Sidner, S. S., corporal. Age, 23. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

Fisher, C. D., farrier. Lincoln.

Mason, S. W., saddler. Age, 28. Lincoln. Mustered as private.

## Privates

Auterson, John. Age, 23. Lincoln.

Berkley, John O. Age, 31. Lincoln. Transferred to Signal Corps.

Chizek, R. C. Age, 18. Lincoln.

Cowden, Tom R. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Gearhart, R. H. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Murphy, John K. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Murphey, C. W. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Noyes, Alex. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Nye, C. L. Age, 24. Lincoln.  
Oliver, J. A. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Page, Edward. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Perdue, Curtis. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Porter, Robert. Age, 30. Lincoln.  
Powell, Willis M. Age, 19. Lincoln. Died August 6, 1898, of typhoid fever.  
Rhine, Madison. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Robinson, Fred. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Rumsey, John W. Age, 22. Lincoln.  
Schultz, Henry C. Age, 19. Lincoln.  
Schultz, Gottjole. Age, 21. Lincoln.  
Virgin, David T. Age, 18. Lincoln.  
Wallace, James P. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Wehrs, Henry. Age, 20. Lincoln.  
Woods, Lewis A. Age, 23. Lincoln.

## CHAPTER XXI

### THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN LANCASTER COUNTY

Lincoln may well be called the educational center of the Middle West. Her student body each year approaches the mark of 8,000, a very large percentage in comparison with the population of the city. First in the field of educational work in the county, of course, is the University of Nebraska, comprising seven colleges. In the suburbs of Lincoln are three strong denominational schools: the Nebraska Wesleyan University at University Place which is the central college of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the West, with over 800 students; Cotner University, founded and maintained by the Christian Church, at Bethany, with over 250 students; and the Seventh Day Adventist School, Union College, at College View, with over 300 students. Besides those mentioned Lincoln has a military academy, two large business colleges, three conservatories of music, many private studios, and a finishing school for boys and girls. The secondary schools of the city consist of twenty-eight public schools, with an enrollment of 14,000 pupils.

#### EDUCATIONAL BEGINNINGS

The first district school in Lancaster County was organized at the Colony, afterwards called Lancaster, in the latter part of the year 1864. The district was six miles square. The first board of directors consisted of Jacob Dawson, John M. Young and Milton Langdon. Simon P. Benadom, one of the surviving pioneers of early Lincoln, states that the first school in the county was  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the Town of Roca, a log house upon a sand hill and, in fact, called the "Old Sand Hill" School. Phoebe Elliott was the first teacher here. The following year, 1865, District No. 2 was organized at Yankee Hill, with John Cadman, W. R. Field and W. T. Donovan as directors. In this district, in the dugout owned by John Cadman and occupied by him as a residence, one of the first schools in the county was taught by Robert F. Thurston, with about fifteen scholars. This school was opened prior to the one in District No. 1 as the latter had not yet been completed. The Cadman dugout class was taught the three R's in the winter of 1865-66. Judge A. W. Field and his sister, Mrs. J. E. Philpot, four of Cadman's children and three of Donovan's, were pupils in this school. In the fall of 1865 there was a school taught by Miss Alice Carter in a house built by W. T. Donovan on his farm at Yankee Hill. It is thought that about this time there was a school taught in the vicinity of Saltillo.

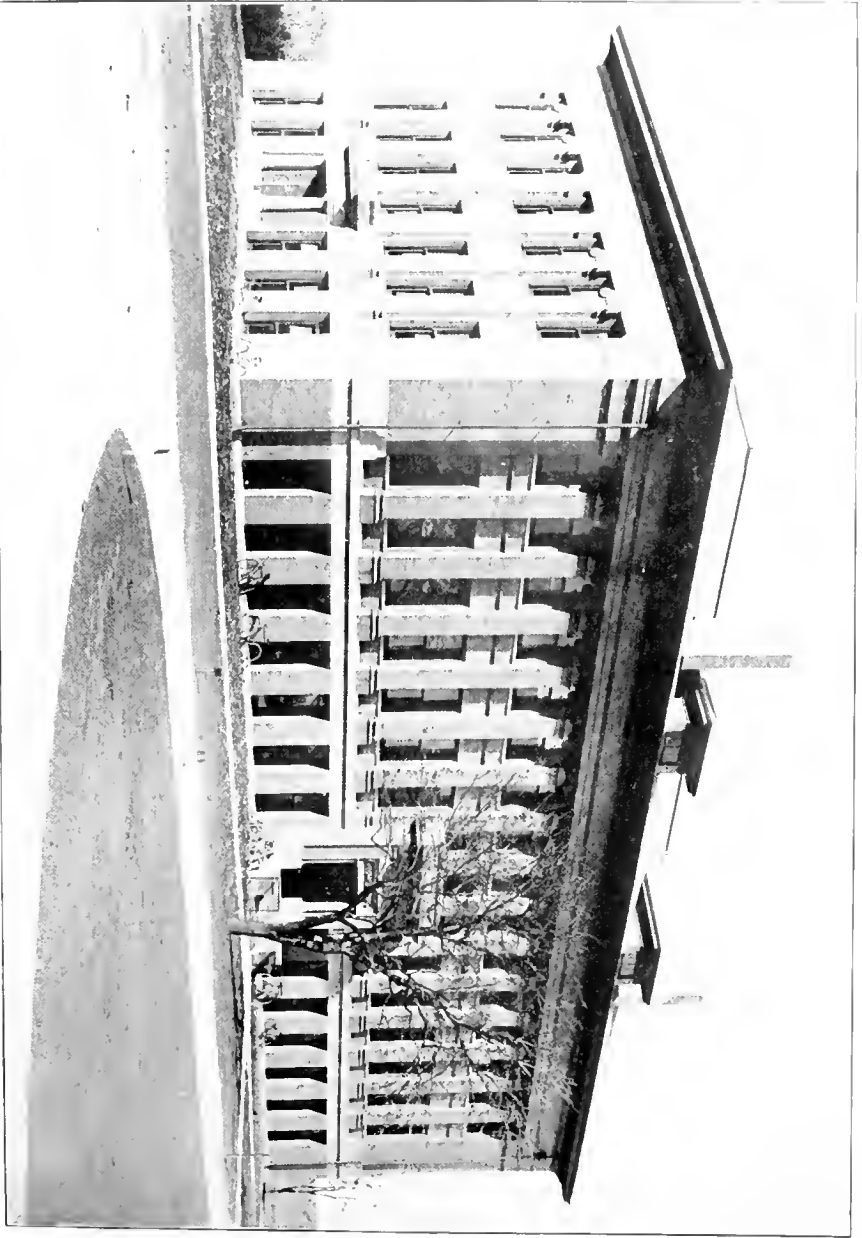
In 1866 the stone seminary in Lancaster was completed to such an extent that a school was opened in one room of the building which stood on the site of the

present State Journal Building. The interior finish was then very rough and there was no floor. This was the first school in Lancaster and was conducted by H. W. Merrill in the latter part of the year. He had about thirty in his class. Early in 1867 Mrs. H. W. Merrill taught a term of school in this same seminary. It is said that Mrs. Merrill divided her time between her class and a year-old baby. She lived in one end of the building and John Monteith had a shoe shop in another part of the structure. The classes here were a little broken up by the Indian troubles which threatened the settlers; many of the pioneers left with their children, but most of them returned later. In the spring of 1867 Elder Young's fond dream, the seminary, burned and so ended the school therein. John Cadman opened the Cadman House upon the site after rebuilding the walls. This left the Village of Lancaster without a school and so it remained until after the location of the state capital and the founding of the Town of Lincoln.

In the fall of 1867, soon after the first sale of lots on the new plat of Lincoln, the school directors erected a small stone house for school purposes on the northeast corner of Q and Eleventh streets. In this building George W. Peck taught the first school in Lincoln in the fall of 1867, with thirty-five pupils. During the winter of 1868-69 school was continued here with Professor James as the teacher. The number of scholars increased to about sixty-five and in order to better accommodate them the Methodist Church was purchased, on the southwest corner of Q and Tenth streets, and in this building another class was organized, instruction beginning May 5, 1869, with T. L. Catlin as teacher. The stone schoolhouse became a town jail in 1873 and the old Methodist Church continued as a schoolhouse until the summer of 1889, being known first as the South Schoolhouse and later as the J Street School.

During the spring of 1869 Miss Griswold, later Mrs. S. B. Galey, taught a select school. By 1870 there were three schools and the question of bonding the district for \$50,000 for the construction of a high school began to be discussed. On June 17, 1871, an election was held at the White Schoolhouse and the bond question was given a favorable vote of 151 to 60. C. M. Parker, W. A. Colman and B. W. Ballard were judges of this election. On August 19th an election was held to determine the location of the proposed \$50,000 high school building, three sites being considered. One was block 63, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth, M and N; another was block 155, bounded by F, G, Fifteenth and Sixteenth; and the third was block 120, bounded by J, K, Eleventh and Twelfth. There were 235 votes cast, as follows: 185 for block 63, 32 for block 155, and 18 for block 120. The board this year was composed of Philetus Peck, S. J. Tuttle, A. L. Palmer, John Lamb, A. L. Pound and W. T. Donovan. On December 23, 1871, the board adopted the plans and specifications for the new schoolhouse offered by Roberts & Boulanger. On February 15, 1872, the board decided to advertise for bids on the construction of the high school building, to be completed by September 1, 1872. On March 11th the bid of Moore & Krone for the brick, iron, stone and masonry work was accepted. The firm of Parcell & Dehart got the contract for carpentering. By the 1st of January, 1873, the building was ready for use.

During the summer of 1881 a school building was erected just west of the State University, at a cost of over ten thousand dollars. It was known as the First Ward School. By 1882 there were ten school buildings in Lincoln and



AGRICULTURAL HALL, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA



thirty-one teachers. By 1889 the number of buildings had grown to sixteen and the enrollment to 4,750. In this year there were eighty teachers employed.

#### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

The bill providing for the charter of the University of Nebraska, known as S. F., No. 86, was introduced into the Senate of the First Territorial Legislature on February 11, 1869, by Cunningham of Richardson County. On the same day it was referred to the Committee on Education, of which C. H. Gere was chairman. This committee reported it back the next day with amendments. It was passed and sent to the House on the 13th. Under the suspension of rules it was read a first and second time the same day and was referred to the Committee on Schools. On the 15th the bill was read the third time, passed, and forwarded to the governor, who signed it. It became a law on the last day of the legislative session.

The building was provided for by S. F., No. 32, which was a bill to provide for the sale of unsold lots and blocks on the townsite of Lincoln, and for the erection of an insane hospital, a state university, and agricultural college. The original charter of the university provided for twelve regents, nine of them to be chosen by the Legislature in joint session, three from each judicial district. In addition to these nine the chancellor, superintendent of public instruction and the governor were members *ex-officio*. This arrangement has been changed considerably.

The charter of 1869 provided for six colleges: the college of literature, the sciences and arts; of law; of medicine; of agriculture; of the practical sciences, surveying and mechanics; and of fine arts. The amendment of February 19, 1877, reduced the colleges to five by the union of the agricultural college with that of the practical sciences.

After the establishment of the university the criticism which came from other parts of the state, localities which resented the establishment of the capital at Lincoln, was very bitter. The Morton History states that "the main fault was that the university was opened too early; and its scant patronage and an inferentially high per capita cost of students was industriously ridiculed and denounced. While the complaint was very plausible, its foundation was as flimsy as that of the first building."

Prof. H. W. Caldwell, in a paper read before the Historical Society in 1889, had the following to say in regard to the construction of the first building:

"On June 5, 1869, the sale of lots began and the first day 105 lots were sold for about thirty thousand dollars. The next day the Commonwealth remarks that 'now the completion of the State University and Agricultural College is assured.' Eleven days later the paper announced the arrival of Mr. R. D. Silver, who will immediately put in a large plant for manufacturing brick for the university—the capacity of the plant was to be 12,000 brick per day. The plans of Mr. J. M. Bird, of Logansport, Ind., were accepted on June 2d and on August 14th the Commonwealth contains an editorial description of the plans for the new building, classing the style of architecture as Franco-Italian. The same issue of the paper announces that the excavation for the basement of the university was completed.

"On August 18, 1869, the contract for the erection of the building was let to Silver & Son, for \$128,480; soon afterwards the troubles which followed the university for so many years began. Even the Brownville Advertiser, a good friend of the university, thought the policy of letting a contract for \$28,480 more than the appropriation, unwise. The State Journal came to the defense of the regents, arguing that it was better policy to begin the erection of a building of sufficient size and well suited to its uses, even if it were necessary to have an additional appropriation, than to spend \$100,000 upon a building that would soon have to be torn down because unsuited to the needs of the future. The cornerstone was laid on September 23, 1869; two days later a glowing account appeared in the columns of the State Journal. The exercises were in the hands of the Masons with Maj. D. H. Wheeler as master of ceremonies. A brass band from Omaha, imported for the occasion, headed the procession. In the evening a grand banquet was given. Governor Butler made a few remarks and Mr. Wheeler a short speech. Then Atty.-Gen. Seth Robinson gave an address on 'Popular Education,' but as most of it concerned Greece and Rome, and very little of it related to Nebraska, any further reference to it may be omitted here. The banquet—thanks to the good ladies of Lincoln—was enjoyed by fully a thousand people, dancing being indulged in from 10 until 4 o'clock. This was the beginning, but the end was not yet, as Lincoln people well knew. The regents visited the building and, after inspection, approved the plans and construction on January 6, 1871, but before a student had ever entered its doors, the cry was raised that it was insecure. On June 13, 1871, three professional architects were employed to examine the building thoroughly. Their report was made June 23d and pronounced the building safe for the present, and probably for years to come. This probability they thought could be made a certainty by a few repairs that would not be very expensive. These repairs were made and September 6th the university was opened with an enrollment of about ninety students the first week. However, the rumor of the insecurity of the building would not down, so March 18, 1873, a special meeting of the regents was called to consider further repairs. After a report from another set of architects a new foundation was ordered to be put under the chapel. The foundation walls, as they were torn out were to be examined by an architect under the direction of the attorney-general, Gen. J. R. Webster, who reported that the foundation had not been built in accordance with the contract. The chancellor in his report of June 26, 1877, again called the attention of the board to the condition of the building. Four architects were now employed, one from Omaha, one from Nebraska City, and two from Lincoln. On the strength of their report, the regents resolved, July 6, 1877, to tear down the building and to erect a new one at a cost of \$60,000, \$40,000 of this amount to be raised in Lincoln. Work was to commence immediately on securing the above amount. The citizens of Lincoln were not satisfied, so they sent to Chicago and Dubuque for architects who examined the building and pronounced it easily repaired. A committee of Lincoln's citizens met the regents on August 15th. From the new light thus secured, the resolution to tear down was reconsidered. A new foundation with some other repairs was ordered, and the bill of \$6,012 was paid by Lincoln. Various attempts to secure an appropriation to reimburse the city have been made, but all have ended in failure. At the same



time the roof was repaired at an expense of \$1,625, but the water still found its way through, till finally, in 1883 a slate roof was put on and the 'leak' stopped."

The first board of regents of the university comprised the following men: First Judicial District—John C. Elliott, Robert W. Furnas, David R. Dungan; Second Judicial District—Rev. John B. Maxfield, Abel B. Fuller, Champion S. Chase; Third Judicial District—William B. Dale, William G. Olinger, F. H. Longley. The ex-officio members of the board of regents were: Governor Butler, Samuel D. Beals, superintendent of public instruction, and A. R. Benton, chancellor.

The first faculty consisted of: Allen R. Benton, A. M., LL. D., chancellor and professor of intellectual and moral science; S. H. Manley, A. M., professor of ancient languages and literature; Henry E. Hitchcock, A. M., professor of mathematics; O. C. Dake, professor of rhetoric and English literature; Samuel Aughey, A. M., professor of chemistry and natural sciences; George E. Church, A. M., principal of Latin school; S. R. Thompson, professor in agricultural department.

The university started with the single college of literature, science and arts. The courses included were the classical, Latin, sciences and Greek.

The first students were: freshmen—Frank Hurd, Tecumseh; Uruah M. Melick, Camden; H. Kanaga Metcalf, Rock Creek; W. H. Sheldon, Percival, Iowa; Mary W. Sessions, Lincoln; sophomores—Wallace M. Stephens, Nebraska City; William H. Snell, Lincoln; juniors—J. Stuart Dales, East Rochester, Ohio. Mr. Dales received the first degree in course the next year, 1873. In addition to the students mentioned above there were twelve irregular students and 110 in the preparatory or Latin school.

At a meeting held June 25, 1872, at the close of the first year of school the agricultural college was established and \$1,000 appropriated for necessary improvements. In 1885 the State Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for the chemical building and two or three years later provision was made for the industrial college building, now known as Nebraska Hall; also provision was made for Grant Memorial Hall. In 1891 the sum of \$37,000 was appropriated for the library building.

The medical college was established first in 1884, but was not successful, and was discontinued two years later. The school was revived in 1902 by an agreement with the Omaha Medical College. Thus began the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska. The State Legislature of 1909 appropriated funds with which to purchase a site for the medical campus in Omaha and the Legislature of 1911 voted another appropriation for the laboratory building. In the summer of 1913 the entire staff and equipment of the college was moved to Omaha. The college of law was established at a meeting of the regents in August, 1891, and W. H. Smith was the first dean. A handsome building for the accommodation of this school has recently been erected upon the campus at Lincoln.

Prof. H. W. Caldwell, in his paper mentioned before, said in regard to the teaching of military tactics: "The act of Congress of July 2, 1862, donating 90,000 acres of land to the agricultural college requires that provision shall be made for the teaching of military tactics. This condition has been faithfully fulfilled. The department was not put into operation without some friction; but in later years the relation between the military professor and the cadets

has been peculiarly pleasant. The regents asked as early as 1872 for the detail of Col. James J. Brislin as instructor in military tactics. This request was refused on the ground that an officer of that rank was never detailed for such a purpose. Finally a commandant was secured, and in the fall of 1876 Lieut. E. S. Dudley entered upon his work. The first year no suits were required and service was voluntary. But in December, 1876, the regents passed a resolution requiring suits, after the word 'advising' had been stricken from the report. The following June drill was made compulsory on certain classes for one hour each day. In the fall of 1877 trouble began. The students felt that their rights and liberties had been invaded and they proposed to have a redress of grievances, at least to have their say. The old Tichenor House, at the corner of Thirteenth and K streets, was then rented by the university and used as a dormitory for boys. Far up under the eaves on the third floor two or three indignation meetings were held and resistance was resolved upon. A petition was, however, first to be tried, at the suggestion of some of the more conservative. This was really supposed to be a sharp move, for the leaders expected of course that the request would be refused, then they conceived a just cause of rebellion, and of war, would exist. This petition was duly signed by nineteen brave young men asking to be excused from drill on the ground that they had come with all the clothing necessary for the year, and their pocket-books would not stand the additional drain for the military suits that were required. The answer was awaited in trembling expectancy for the brave nineteen had resolved to go to some other school rather than submit to such tyranny. The answer came. It said (1) that for the coming year since no announcement of the requirement had been made, suits need not be purchased; (2) that two companies would be formed, one for those with military suits, and one for those who had none. The noble nineteen met and consulted. They agreed that the faculty had out-generated them; eighteen of them fell into line and drilled, known in the squibs of the times as the 'ragamuffin squad.' The nineteenth got excused on the ground of manual labor and set type on the *Hesperian Student* to prove it. He has not been unknown in political circles since."

The Graduate College of the University was organized in 1886. On February 14, 1908, the regents changed the Department of Education into the Teachers' College, which action was confirmed by the Legislature of 1909. The College of Engineering was organized by the Legislature of 1909 and at the same time the Industrial College was abolished. The School of Pharmacy was organized in 1908. The School of Fine Arts was reorganized in July, 1912 as a part of the College of Arts and Sciences. The School of Commerce was created by the regents in May, 1913. This school comprises courses intended to give the student a thorough business education.

The College of Agriculture was established by an act of the Legislature of 1909. A farm of 320 acres three miles east of Lincoln was secured for experimental purposes and to illustrate the correct methods of farm practice. Horticulture, animal husbandry, entomology, agricultural botany and experimental agronomy are among the branches taught here. Commodious buildings are erected on this farm for the use of the different departments. The farm is connected with the city of Lincoln by electric railway.

The first chancellor of the University of Nebraska was A. R. Benton. He was selected by the regents on January 6, 1870. He was succeeded by Edmund B.



UNION COLLEGE (SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST) COLLEGE VIEW



Fairfield. In 1883 Irving J. Manatt was appointed chancellor and served until January 1, 1889, when he retired. Prof. Charles E. Bessey was acting chancellor until August, 1891, when James H. Canfield assumed the office, and held it until September 1, 1895. George E. MacLean then was appointed and he remained until September 1, 1899. Again Professor Bessey acted as chancellor until E. Benjamin Andrews took the office September 1, 1900. On January 1, 1909, Samuel Avery became acting chancellor and on May 20, 1909, was elected to that office.

#### UNION COLLEGE AT COLLEGE VIEW, NEBRASKA

Educational work among the Seventh Day Adventists in the Mississippi Valley began with the Minnesota Conference School at Minneapolis in the fall of 1888. This school was held three years in the basement of the Seventh Day Adventist Church at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Lake Street. It enrolled each year over one hundred young men and women as students. From the first, the accommodations were too small and were otherwise unsuitable, hence a council was held at Owatonna, Minn., May 20-21, 1889, to plan for better facilities. This meeting was attended by Prof. W. W. Prescott, president of Battle Creek College and educational secretary of the denomination; Elder A. J. Breed, president of the Wisconsin Conference; Elders W. B. White and N. P. Nelson, from Dakota; Elders H. Grant, Allen Moon, and F. L. Mead, representing the Minnesota Conference; and Prof. C. C. Lewis, principal of the Minneapolis school. At this council it was recommended that the several conferences of the northwest unite in establishing and maintaining a well-equipped and centrally-located school, and that a committee be appointed, consisting of two members from each conference, with power to act in the matter of building and opening such a school. The committee was called to meet again at Owatonna in July, 1889.

The meeting thus appointed was not held. Before the time arrived, the idea had entirely outgrown its original form. At a meeting held at Lincoln, Neb., a few weeks later, a larger council recommended the establishment of an educational institution of college grade which would serve all the conferences of the Mississippi Valley.

#### LOCATION OF THE COLLEGE

At the annual session of the General Conference held at Battle Creek, Mich., in October, 1889, it was decided to establish a college, under the auspices of the denomination, at some point between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains. A committee was appointed to select a suitable location. Invitations, accompanied by promises of a substantial bonus, were received from various cities in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. The committee spent some time in investigating these places, and considering the advantages offered. While the question of a central location with reference to the territory from which patronage was expected was regarded as an important one, there were other considerations also that were deemed to be weighty. The general atmosphere of the community and its attitude toward education in general are impor-

tant features in deciding a question of this character. It was found that while Lincoln was comparatively a new city, it was at the front in its efforts to advance the well-being of its citizens. Its substantial school buildings, its many and well-built churches, and the fact that it was already the seat of three universities, with a prospect that this number would soon be increased, testified to the interest of its citizens in education and religion. These considerations, together with the hearty interest shown in the project by leading citizens, and the offer of very substantial aid, led the committee, at a meeting held at Knoxville, Iowa, June 28, 1890, to determine upon the City of Lincoln as the location of the new institution, which was afterwards named Union College. The citizens of Lincoln and vicinity donated 300 acres of land,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles southeast of the state capitol, and the General Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists gave a bond of \$100,000 to erect, by July 1, 1891, buildings to cost not less than seventy thousand dollars. The raising of funds and erection of buildings were under the direction of A. R. Henry, agent and attorney-in-fact for the General Conference. W. C. Sisley, architect and superintendent of the work; Elder J. P. Gardiner, once president of the Nebraska Conference, with others, labored strenuously for the success of the enterprise.

#### THE DEDICATION

On April 10, 1890, the ground was broken for the main college building, and on the 3rd of May the first stone was laid. There were many difficulties in the way, but all were overcome, and the buildings were ready for dedication September 14, 1891. On that occasion the chapel, with a seating capacity of 500, was filled to overflowing with citizens from Lincoln, College View, and the surrounding country. Elder O. A. Olsen, president of the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference, presided, and opened the exercises with prayer. Prof. William P. Aylesworth, of Cotner University, conducted the scripture reading. W. C. Sisley presented to the trustees the keys of the college buildings, accompanying the presentation with a history of the work of building. A. R. Henry, on the part of the trustees, received the keys and responded in an appropriate address. The chief address of the occasion was delivered by Prof. W. W. Prescott, the first president of Union College. In this address he emphasized the three leading features of Christian education as consisting of the study of God's word in the revelation of the Bible, the study of His works in nature, and the study of His dealings with men and nations as revealed in history. Chancellor James H. Canfield of the University of Nebraska followed with an appropriate speech of welcome, delivered in his happiest manner. The dedicatory prayer was offered by Elder Uriah Smith, editor of *Review and Herald*, Battle Creek, Michigan, and the benediction was pronounced by Elder W. B. White, president of the Nebraska Conference.

The presidents of Union College have been: William W. Prescott, 1891-2; James W. Loughhead, 1893-5; Eli B. Miller, 1896; N. W. Kauble, 1897; W. T. Bland, 1898-1900; Lewis A. Hoopes, 1901-3; Charles C. Lewis, 1904-9; Frederick Griggs, 1910-13; Harvey A. Morrison, 1914-.

The enrollment in 1914-15 was 323, including students from eighteen states, Jamaica, Korea, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Turkey.



MARTIN LUTHER SEMINARY, LINCOLN





## COTNER UNIVERSITY

At the annual state convention of the Christian Church in 1887 a resolution was passed authorizing a committee composed of J. Z. Briscoe, E. T. Gadd, Porter Hedge, W. P. Aylsworth, G. E. Bigelow, J. B. Johnson, and W. W. West to consider the question of incorporating a Christian university. After investigation the committee accepted donations of land amounting to 321 acres north-east of Lincoln, at the point now Bethany, and on February 14, 1888, articles of incorporation of the Nebraska Christian Educational Board were filed.

The next step was the erection of a building. Arrangements were made for the building of this structure and on April 30, 1888, the cornerstone was laid, and was completed in April, 1890. The building was constructed of Milwaukee brick and trimmed with Michigan red sandstone.

The action of the committee in starting the university was confirmed by the state convention held in Lincoln from August 28th to 30th, 1888. A board of trustees was elected, known as the Nebraska Christian Educational Board, and consisted of J. Z. Briscoe, president; Alvin Saunders, vice president; C. R. Van Duyn, treasurer; Porter Hedge, secretary; and W. P. Aylsworth, W. T. Newcomb, Ira Titus, C. J. Hale, Thomas Wiles, J. T. Smith, C. C. Munson, and E. T. Gadd.

School was opened in the fall of 1889 in a private house, with W. P. Aylsworth acting as president. He was succeeded by D. R. Dungan in 1890, who served for six consecutive years.

At this time the young university was compelled to undergo the financial depression which was general throughout the country. The assets of the institution decreased in value and notes which were given on sold lots for the construction of the buildings were defaulted. In addition to this the price of the lots had gone down until hardly 10 per cent could be realized upon their purchase price. The management of the university, in order to meet the demands forced upon them, gave a mortgage upon the building. Business conditions became so bad that the mortgage was foreclosed and the property passed into the hands of a trustee, acting for the creditors. During all of this time the school was continuing with its educational work, unhampered, or unembarrassed, by the troublesome period through which it was passing. In 1896 D. R. Dungan resigned and W. P. Aylsworth was chosen as chancellor. In 1898 John W. Hilton, an alumnus, was chosen financial agent to raise a fund for the redemption of the school property. After two years of effort upon his part and others interested in the renovation of the university, the debt was paid and the building, the campus and dormitory were deeded back to the Nebraska Christian University. This new corporation was formed February 11, 1901, and represented the Disciples of Christ in Nebraska. The property of the university is valued at about one hundred and forty thousand dollars. The university has two colleges, liberal arts and medicine, an academy, normal school, business school, school of eloquence, school of music and school of art. The medical college is located in Lincoln and is known as the Lincoln Medical College. This school was opened September 15, 1890, in the university building with Dr. W. S. Latta as dean.

In 1886 there were Methodist schools at York and Central City, and both of them were financially in need of assistance. There was also a tendency to scatter several more educational institutions over the state, all under the domination of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Realizing that this would mean the demise of most of the embryonic schools the bishop asked for an appointment of a commission, composed of five members from each conference, and three from each school, and that the educational work of the church in Nebraska be centrally located in one large school. All of the conferences agreed with this thought. Accordingly the commission, in company with Bishops Bowman and Warren, met at the St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church in Lincoln on December 15, 1886, and immediately began their appointed task of unifying the educational work of the church. They decided that there should be only one institution of college grade in the state, the location of it to be decided later, and that all other schools of the denomination should be subordinate to this one central college, with the privilege of carrying their course of studies as far as the sophomore year. The commission then voted to place the main university at Lincoln, Nebraska.

The site was located about three miles from Lincoln and a \$70,000 building erected. A town was laid out around the school and named University Place, which community has since grown to over 2,000 inhabitants. It has a municipal government of its own, but is closely connected with the City of Lincoln by electric car lines.

The first chancellor of Wesleyan University was C. F. Creighton: he stayed for six years, and was succeeded by Isaac Crooks. In three years he resigned and the place was filled by an acting chancellor until March, 1898, when D. W. C. Huntington was elected to the office. He held the place until 1911, when Mr. Clark A. Fulmer was appointed chancellor.

In 1905 the charter of the school was amended so as to have two trustees from the Alumni Association of the College of Liberal Arts. In 1911 the charter was again amended in order that two additional trustees could be elected from the Alumni Association. In 1913 the report of the conference commissioners on the Nebraska Wesleyan University was adopted, providing for the election of six members by the Northwest Nebraska Conference, from within its boundaries; eighteen members by the Consolidated Nebraska Annual Conference from within its boundaries; and four members from and by the Alumni Association of the College of Liberal Arts; and nine members at large by the board of trustees. One-third of the members were to be chosen annually and to hold office for three years.

In addition to the original building of the university there is now the C. C. White Memorial Building, a magnificent brick and stone structure, used for the College of Liberal Arts. This was built in 1905. The building cost over \$50,000.

The Wesleyan University has just become affiliated with the Nebraska School of Medicine at Omaha, Nebraska, in an arrangement by means of which the university will offer the two years of work preparatory to the study of



MAIN BUILDING, NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY PLACE



HIGH SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY PLACE



medicine and at the end of two years more spent in the Omaha school Wesleyan will be enabled to award the degree of Bachelor of Science.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The attendance of the Lincoln public schools showed an increase of 470 pupils in the year 1915, as compared with the previous year. In the year just ended 8,894 children enrolled in the grade and high schools controlled by the Lincoln school district. Out of this number 1,250 were high school pupils, an increase of 145 over the year 1914. On the first of December, 1915, eighteen grade schools furnished accommodations to 7,644 children. The enrollment varied from 73 in the Willard or West A Street School to 773 in the McKinley School at Fifteenth and M streets. The following table will illustrate the growth, also decrease, in the various grade schools:

School	1915	1914
Bancroft .....	663	352
Belmont .....	162	151
Bryant .....	438	512
Capitol .....	458	529
Clinton .....	625	623
Elliott .....	652	730
Everett .....	443	473
Hawthorne .....	129	103
Hayward .....	480	528
Lakeview .....	39	32
Longfellow .....	152	147
McKinley .....	773	388
Park .....	606	665
Prescott .....	538	549
Randolph .....	199	168
Saratoga .....	515	551
Whittier .....	699	748
Willard .....	73	70
High .....	1,250	1,105
	<hr/> 8,894	<hr/> 8,424

The advance of education in the past few years has made many changes in the conduct of the schools and the school systems. No field of activity, perhaps, has had such a rapid development in the past few years as that of education. Schools are undergoing a constant revision and reorganization, whereas not so many years ago they were content to adhere to one system for year after year, never appreciating the necessity of change. The newest thing in education is the trend towards vocational training. The cry of the business man for years has been that the schools paid too much attention to the classics and too little attention to the fundamental principles and practical methods. The first lines to be cut were the required courses in the dead languages, namely, Latin and Greek. German was substituted for these. Manual training schools and domestic science kitchens were inaugurated, also printing and sewing.

Some of the things which have been accomplished in the public schools during the last few years are: (1) A department of hygiene under the direction of a regular physician hired for full time, and a nurse. (2) A junior civic and industrial league with a branch in each junior high school. The league now numbers over fifteen hundred members. (3) An efficiency list organized under the junior civic league organization. (4) A system of school and home gardens. (5) A night school system with 25 teachers and an enrollment of 1,000. (6) Social and neighborhood centers in three schools, Hayward, Park and McKinley. (7) A newly established system of junior high schools giving language options, with promotion by subject instead of by grade. (8) Three prevocational schools offering industrial work as a large part of the course. (9) Departments for vocational guidance. (10) A preparatory school in which apt scholars do three years' work in two. (11) A housekeeping home in the high school. (12) A \$200,000.00 plant for the junior high school and a \$750,000.00 plant for the high school. Corresponding changes have been made in the management and government of the schools, the curricula of the schools and the business methods.

Not only has a strong increase been made toward better things in the schools of Lincoln, but in the other districts of Lancaster County there have been like changes. There are, all together, 142 school districts in the county, with 165 school houses—143 of them frame, 21 brick and 1 of stucco. In these schools are employed 47 male teachers and 481 female, a total of 528. The county as a whole presents an enrollment of 15,791 students of all ages, and the average daily attendance is 12,483. Almost without exception the school houses in the county are listed either good or fair. Sanitary conditions are observed thoroughly and the welfare of the pupil is constantly guarded. Following in the footsteps of the railroads, industries and other activities, the motto of "Safety First" is acted upon more and more in educational lines.

#### SMALL PERCENTAGE OF ILLITERACY

This state is generally known throughout the country as one which is of the highest agricultural value. Its cattle are found upon the thousand hills, and its waving fields of grain are seen on every hand, but perhaps it is not generally known that intellectually and educationally speaking, Nebraska stands in the front rank.

Only a year or two ago statistics showed that there was a smaller percentage of illiteracy here than in any other state in the Union. It is the second state per capita in owners of automobiles, and is the first state in the Union in wealth per capita. In musical matters we find she is taking rank with many of the states which are much older, where the art of music had been pursued with great diligence before Nebraska became a state.

#### THE PLACE OF MUSIC

Recognizing the value of the art, the public schools in Lincoln were the third in the United States to offer a course in music in connection with literary studies which would lead to graduation. The University of Nebraska has recognized its cultural value by giving credit for the theoretical and applied music for more than ten years past.

Perhaps one of the greatest agencies in the development of music in the state has been the University School of Music, which was for many years affiliated with the state university, but is now an independent institution. This was established some twenty-two years ago when the regents invited Mr. Willard Kimball to come to this state and operate a school of music.

It is well remembered by those who are still on the ground that the taste for music in this city was very primitive, save for the fact that a comparatively small number of citizens were interested in a higher musical education. The large majority cared nothing for it or regarded it as having no educational value.

#### MUSICAL TASTE DEVELOPING

How different it is today, when we have largely attended gatherings at recitals of celebrated artists; when the May festival annually brings one of the largest orchestras in the country; and the annual pageant, now fully established, consists very largely of high class music which is enjoyed by all.

The University School of Music has grown since 1894 to an institution having an annual attendance of more than seven hundred students, and a faculty of thirty-five men and women who have received the most liberal education at home and abroad, and who are sought for as concert artists in this and other states. The school has sent out hundreds of graduates who are building up the musical appreciation of the people in many different communities and laying the foundation for increased appreciation of music by the girls and boys who are being educated in our public schools.

More than fifty supervisors of music in the public schools of the state have been furnished from this school, and it undertakes to give free instruction to 100 children from the public schools annually, beside offering 100 free and partial scholarships to older students who are not able to pay. It naturally follows that this institution is worthy of the patronage and enthusiastic support of all those who believe that musical education is of value to the individual, and to all such the institution extends a cordial invitation to become better acquainted.

#### LINCOLN'S NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

With the completion of the new \$750,000 high school building Lincoln's public schools take rank with the schools of Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City and other large and progressive school centers of the country. Few, if any, of the high school buildings in the country surpass that of Lincoln from the point of view of grandeur and equipment. The new building was first occupied in September, 1915. It has a capacity of 1,200 pupils. It has thirty-six class rooms, two gymnasiums, a swimming pool, a large auditorium, music and art rooms, lecture rooms, laboratories, manual training and domestic science rooms. The building is complete in every detail and its arrangement and completeness represents the latest and most scientific ideas in education. The building is three stories high, with a fourth story in the middle. It is 300 by 200 feet in size. The material is cream colored pressed brick on the outside. The rooms are lighted with hundreds of windows from the outside and from court lights. All of the class rooms have natural light in abundance. There are six corridors in the building, one of them

244 feet long and 16 feet wide. The floors are terraza and the walls of marble. Some of the stairs are 16 feet wide and made of fine white marble. On the first floor is the manual training room, 21 by 40 feet in size. There are also printing rooms, typewriter rooms, two banking and business rooms, sewing rooms for girls, and a modern kitchen room for domestic science. The two gymnasiums are 12 by 90 feet each, equipped in addition with shower baths and lockers. On the second floor is the auditorium which will seat more than 1,300 people. The stage at one end is 42 by 22 feet. The auditorium is 80 feet square and has a gallery. On this floor are also the administration offices. The suite occupies a space 30 by 50 feet. The south front of the second floor is devoted to laboratories and a large study room. The third floor contains class and study rooms, laboratories and library. The library is large enough to accommodate more than 500 students at one time. The fourth floor is devoted to music and art. In addition there is a recital hall with stage.

The building is heated by a large plant just east of the main building, with a smokestack 140 feet high. The heating and ventilating systems represent the most modern thought along this line. Only air that has been washed is allowed to enter the rooms. The artificial lighting is done by the indirect system. A large cafeteria is operated in the building where pupils and teachers may obtain luncheon at the minimum of expense.

#### VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN THE LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In the Nebraska State Journal of January 2, 1916, there appears the following article by C. B. Cornell in regard to the vocational work in the public schools of the Capital City:

"In a recent article on the subject of vocational training in the schools Professor Leavitt, of Chicago University, makes the following statements: 'Educators are being warned not to train boys away from the farm and the shop. This the schools have undoubtedly done to some extent. Our revised ideal will require that we educate the boy for work on the farm and in the shop, but that we so educate him that he will make a better farmer and will develop a richer farm life, or will demand a better shop and conditions more favorable to progress and to a reasonable enjoyment of his work and his leisure. The problem is to provide such an education as will make clear to the great majority the meaning and the joy of work and of study. The time devoted to education in the elementary schools is too short to impart all necessary knowledge, but it may not be too short to develop the desire for knowledge and skill, and the habits of study and of industry.'

"This may properly be taken as the principle which underlies the present movement in vocational education. And may it be stated in the beginning that this movement is not one which happens to be riding on the crest of a wave of popularity, but one which is the outcome of a logical development in educational ideals, and which, as such, is destined to play an active part in the management of the public schools of the future.

"Vocational work has received its greatest impetus from two sources: (1) the desire of educators to retain children in school, and (2) the demand of the community for a more practical system of instruction. These two forces are



working in unison toward the accomplishment of a common end—that of so educating the boy that he may become a more useful member of society, which means that his lot will be a happier one while he contributes in a broader way to the common good.

#### DEPARTMENT'S FIRST YEAR

"The department of boys' vocational work was established in Lincoln by action of the board of education during the latter part of the last school year. It embraces all of the industrial and vocational activities in all the schools, from the fifth grade through the high school. There are three general groups of schools in the Lincoln system: the junior high, prevocational, and senior high, each with a particular course of study in the manual arts. The course in the junior high schools, namely, Clinton, Elliott, Whittier, Bryant, Capitol, Prescott, Saratoga, Everett, and Park, consists, at present, of bench work in wood, with a preliminary course in mechanical drawing in the seventh and eighth grades. Each boy is in the shop one ninety-minute period per week. While this is not sufficient time for the production of a great quantity of work per pupil nevertheless it is maximum amount of time which is feasible with the present equipment and teaching force.

"In these shops the boys are taught the use of various tools common to the carpenter and cabinet maker's trades, also the making and interpreting of the boy along practical lines. Each project is planned with the idea of its utility constantly in mind. No problem is begun until the boy has a clear understanding of its construction and of the use for which it is intended. As far as possible, the boys are permitted to work out their own ideas, and, in the upper grades, may select their projects. Accuracy of technique and close attention to detail are insisted upon. During the present year many projects have been, or are being made, for use in the school rooms, in addition to a considerable amount of furniture repair work. The success in this field is attained when the boy has a genuine interest in his work. The result is at once reflected in his other school work and in his general deportment. In the words of President Elliott, 'To do a mechanical or artistic piece of work thoroughly is much more than the material operation. It is a moral achievement.'

#### THREE BRANCHES OF WORK

"In the high school proper three lines of work are open to students: (1) Bench work in wood, ten periods per week; (2) mechanical drawing, ten periods per week; (3) printing. The wood working course was offered this year for the first time in the Lincoln High School. The equipment consists of twenty benches, with hand tools, and two turning lathes. This equipment will be increased to meet the demands of additional registration. It has been proposed to erect a manual arts building to house the activities of this department. In order to keep pace with present educational standards, Lincoln will need such a building in the very near future, a manual arts school which can be operated in conjunction with the regular high school. The mechanical drawing course follows the conventional lines of geometric projection, machine and architectural drawing. The print shop is fully equipped to turn out all kinds of job work. In September the

students in the printing classes undertook the publication of the *Advocate*, a weekly high school paper. The shop has three presses, motor, paper cutter, type and cases for ten students. The instruction is given by a high class, practical printer who has been especially trained for this line of work.

"The main activity in the department this year is the working out of policies and courses for the newly-created prevocational schools, Hayward, Bancroft and McKinley. In the report of the committee on course of study for these schools we find the following paragraph: 'The purpose of the schools is to instruct the boys in all the fundamental principles of the trades represented. It is not the intention to make skilled workmen, but to enable the boy to learn the use of his hands and his head in practical construction in several different lines of work and thus enable him to choose that particular kind of work for which he feels himself best adapted. It is the further purpose of the school to offer to the hand-minded and practical minded boy opportunity to exercise his powers in matters that appeal to his mental constitution and seems to him worth while.'

"The chief function of the prevocational schools, as suggested above, is to retain the interest of the boys who would otherwise leave school to enter industrial work, giving them a practical insight into the various trades, with especial training in lines of work for which they seem best adapted.

#### TIME SPENT IN SHOPS

"The amount of time allotted to industrial work in these schools is as follows: Ninth grade, twelve forty-minute periods per week; eighth grade, twelve periods, with an additional six periods optional; seventh grade, eight periods with six optional in addition; fourth, fifth and sixth grades, from four to six hours per week. In the upper grade this means that a boy may so arrange his work that he may spend virtually one-half of his time in the shop. The course is very elastic, hence the work may be made to fit the boy, rather than the boy to fit the work. For example, boys of the third grade, if overgrown or retarded, may be placed in the grade in which he is mentally and physically capable of doing the line with this idea seventy-five backward boys were transferred from the ward schools to these special schools, at the beginning of the year. As a result, in many instances, they are finding themselves and are getting a mental grasp on themselves through the medium of the hand work. Incidentally, the boy is placed in the grade in which he is mentally and physically capable of doing the best work, regardless of his previous training. Special promotions are frequent and it is seldom that a pupil falls down on the responsibility which he assumes when he 'skips a grade.'

"It was anticipated by some that the increase of time spent in the shop with a corresponding decrease in time allotted to the academic branches would work to the disadvantage of the latter. It has been found, however, that the opposite is true. The boys who spend the most time in vocational work, and particularly the boys who do the best hand work, are the leaders in mathematics, English and the other subjects. The industrial work seems to create an atmosphere—an esprit de corps—which permeates the entire school.

## THEORY DISPENSED WITH

"The work, as far as possible, is of a practical nature. Preliminary theory is dispensed with and the boy begins with the actual construction of a real, useful object. In no other phase of education is the timeworn tenet of pedagogy so applicable, 'We learn to do by doing.' To be proficient in any industry certain habits must be established. These must be correct in formation and accurate and efficient in their functioning. The boys are taught the most efficient processes of the various trades with a thorough understanding of the principles which demand their use. No particular attempt is made to turn out a finished artisan in any one line of work. Rather, the plan is to give the boy a comprehensive insight into the most important trades. A foreman of a large shop in this city said recently: 'Our trade is suffering through the lack of apprentices. Can't you fellows do something to help the situation?'

"Wherever possible practical problems are undertaken for the school or the home. For example, during the present semester, the boys of the Hayward shop built a cement walk in front of the school property, 4 by 135 feet, and are completing furniture for the library and school bank. At the McKinley School a complete call bell system has been installed connecting certain rooms in each of the three buildings with the principal's office. The Bancroft shop is turning out kindergarten tables, book cases, hall racks, etc., for use in the school. In each of the shops benches have been made for sheet metal work in addition to drawing boards and other articles.

"The course as outlined and which will be followed during the remainder of the year is as follows: Sixth grade, wood work, three eighty-minute periods, and electric wiring one period per week; seventh grade, wood work four, trade drawing one, and concrete one eighty-minute period per week; eighth grade, trade drawing one, sheet metal one, and wood work four eighty-minute periods per week; ninth grade, same as the eighth. In addition, printing is offered as an optional subject in two of the schools, and shoe repairing in one school.

## THE BOARD'S POLICY

"The policy of the board is to equip the shops in these schools in every detail necessary for the successful teaching of each subject. This year three highest grade circular saws, a lathe and a joined have been installed. Also all necessary tools for instruction in elementary sheet metal work, including snips, forms, stakes, soldering furnace, etc. Each boy is furnished with a complete set of drawing instruments, triangle, drawing paper and ink.

"The course in wood working consists of the processes in joinery, cabinet making, wood finishing and house construction. In sheet metal work it is planned to have each boy make several useful articles of tinware and galvanized iron in addition to repairing articles brought from the home. The course in concrete during the second semester will include mixing and pouring concrete, and making forms for sidewalks, steps, pedestals, etc. Trade drawing covers a wide scope during the two years in which it is taught and will equip the boy to fill satisfactorily a position in the draughting room of any manufacturing establishment. The course in electric wiring is practical in every detail. Large forms or booths

have been erected in which the problems of wiring are actually worked out by practical installation of bell circuits, telephones and electric lights.

"With a teaching force of nine men the department is run with an annual expenditure of approximately twelve thousand dollars. While at times the hoped for results seem slow of realization nevertheless it is felt that the work is well worth the effort and expense and will sooner or later be recognized as an important factor in the production of a more efficient citizenship."

#### OTHER SCHOOLS

The Lincoln Normal University was started in 1891 on a site four miles south-east of Lincoln and a three-story brick building erected to accommodate an expected one thousand students. The building cost \$100,000. However, the success of the institution never reached the pinnacle anticipated and the years of financial depression brought many hardships to the school. On December 1, 1898, the building was destroyed by fire and the school never resumed. At the time of the conflagration the finances were in very poor shape.

The Nebraska Military Academy was started in the fall of 1909 and now occupies a large, fireproof building in Hawthorne, two miles from Lincoln. Very shortly after the school had started in the old Western Normal School Building a fire completely destroyed the plant, but the school continued until a new building was erected despite the inconveniences suffered. Col. B. D. Hayward is the superintendent of the institution and maintains strict military discipline over the boys enrolled. The school has the same standing with the university as all accredited schools, the graduates being admitted without examination to the freshman class of the university.

The Lincoln Business College was founded in 1884 by Prof. F. F. Roose. In 1884, the first year of its existence, the school occupied rooms in the office building at the corner of Eleventh and O streets. After a few years these quarters were outgrown and a place was secured in the Oliver Building at Thirteenth and P streets. Here the entire fourth floor and a half of the third floor were utilized by the school. For sixteen years this remained the home of the school. On January 1, 1914, the school moved into its present home on the corner of Fourteenth and P streets. This is a modern building, designed and erected for the purposes of this school.

#### THE FIGHT FOR EXTENSION OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY

In the Lincoln Sunday Star, issue of August 1, 1915, Dr. Samuel Avery, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, contributed a very comprehensive article upon the subject noted above and the plans which are to be followed in the future by the university. As this article contains much which will be of interest to the readers of this volume, it is quoted verbatim following:

"I have been asked by the management of The Star to write a short historical account of the plans under way for campus extension and the development of the university plant in Lincoln. Inasmuch as the period of my administration will doubtless figure in the future history of the university as the period of campus agitation, extension and development, I am glad to have the opportunity to write a brief synopsis of what has been accomplished up to date.

"When I took up the work of this office on January 1, 1900, the university was confronted with the task of securing funds from the Legislature, the majority of whose members had been elected on a strict economy pledge. The time did not seem ripe for proposing any elaborate program of extension or development. Nevertheless funds were secured with which to purchase the athletic field north of the old campus. Our entire campus up to this time had been four city blocks with the vacated cross streets, or approximately thirteen acres.

"With the actual purchase of ground outside of the original plat the time seemed ripe for a definite building program. Until the building of Leland Stanford University in the early '90s symmetry of architecture had hardly been thought of in America. The Stanford buildings, attractive but not very practical for university purposes, caused the sharpening of the pencils of many university planners. The stately Gothic buildings of the University of Chicago stimulated planning still further. Having occasion to be in Boston in the fall of '00, I called on Mr. Rutan of a well known architects' firm of that city and asked him to visit us with a thought of making a layout sufficiently comprehensive to cover our possible growth for many years.

#### PEOPLE OF MANY MINDS

"When we were agitating for a harmonious extension the friends of the institution were of many minds. This difference of opinion stood out clearly at a rather brilliant dinner held at the Lincoln Hotel at which Mr. Rutan spoke. Members of the board of regents, distinguished citizens, among whom was Hon. W. J. Bryan, representatives of the daily papers of the state, and others, were present. The ferment for campus extension and the harmonious development of the university was working, but there was no evidence of any tendency towards unanimity of opinion as to procedure.

"Mr. Rutan was inclined to think that under the condition then existing we would most likely succeed in endeavoring to persuade the Legislature to give us sufficient money to extend the old campus north of the railroad tracks. It was argued that it would be the best policy to secure land where the houses were of the least value, and accordingly he drew a sketch of the plan which he presented to the university for development along this line. This sketch did not meet the approval of the regents. It called for the finest and best buildings on ground lower than the present campus and nearer the railroad tracks. It was pointed out that the athletic field would be pushed so far towards the tracks that the viaduct would offer free standing room, where the game could be easily viewed, and finally it was shown that while the houses were very poor they were very numerous and consequently the price could not be as reasonable as anticipated. Nevertheless Mr. Rutan's sketch gave something definite for discussion and eventually clarified the situation to this extent: If going north further than U Street was excluded, about the only possibility that remained was to go east on R Street.

#### AGITATION WAS UNEXPECTED

"The agitation for removal to the farm came about unexpectedly. While there had been some discussion of the proposition for thirty years, the immediate

occasion for the agitation arose in this way: A prominent citizen of Lincoln (whose name I will suppress as he is now deceased), felt that the university campus should be turned over to the City of Lincoln for high school purposes, park space, an art gallery and the Historical Society. He felt very strongly that the high school could be developed on a departmental plan, not as a single unit; that it would bring tuition pupils from all over the state and be a great asset to the city; and that the university proper should be removed to the farm and consolidated with the agricultural plant. Though not taking the matter very seriously, I invited this gentleman to meet with the board of regents and explain his ideas. At this meeting of the regents he professed himself thoroughly converted to the plan, so thoroughly that he never gave it up even after the Lincoln gentleman, who made the suggestion to him had long abandoned any thought of the possibility of utilizing the old campus for other Lincoln activities. The history of the removal agitation and its final settlement by a gratifying majority is doubtless in the minds of all your readers and need not be reviewed in this connection.

"I pass then to the plans that have been maturing since the troublesome question has been eventually settled. In order to avoid loss of time, the well known architects, Shepley, Rutan & Collidge of Boston and Chicago, had been working on three layouts for the institution—the city campus extension, the farm campus plan and the consolidated plant at the farm. During his time I felt justified in telling the architects that the probabilities of the state's ever using the third plan were so remote that they need do no work on it other than what was necessary in the interest of fair play before the question was settled. When the question was settled we had a fairly good looking plan for extension. The citizens' bond guaranteeing that the tract from Tenth to Fourteenth and from R to U could be rounded out for \$300,000 fixed the space limits of extension. The problem, then, became one of harmonious grouping and of architecture.

#### GREAT PROGRESS MADE

"Great progress had been made since our first struggles in '09. As soon as the verdict of the people had been announced I secured permission of the board to make a trip with the regents-elect and Mr. Hodgdon, of the firm of Coolidge & Hodgdon, successors to the firm that we had previously employed, to inspect the plants of half a dozen universities of the Middle West. The university senate was invited to name a representative and the choice fell on Professor Barbour. After this study had been made the matter was thoroughly discussed by a university committee consisting of Professors Stout, Caldwell and Barbour and finally by the university senate itself. The regents desired that at the cost of a little time all interests should be heard. The result of the discussion is shown in a plan for campus extension that hangs in my office and which has been published in the daily press.

#### NO BUILDING DESTROYED

"This plan represents all the building that will probably be done in the lifetime of anyone now actively interested in the university. It provides for no destruction of buildings except old Nebraska Hall, which has already been condemned as dangerous. Twelfth Street will be left open for an automobile drive

and for foot passengers, but the other streets will, on the carrying out of the tentative promise of the city commissioners, be closed.

"The first building to be erected will be Bessey Hall. Doctor Bessey himself began drawing the plans for this building and it is in accordance with his wish that it will be placed on the north side of the new campus. He used to say to me, 'A botanist wants a north broadside. He does not care for an attractive street view. The north light for the use of our microscopes is what we need.' While he was working on the plans for this building I noticed with profound regret a falling off in the vitality of Doctor Bessey, and I asked him if there was not someone of the younger force who could relieve him of the drudgery of working out the technical requirements of classroom and laboratory. He at once thanked me for the suggestion and named Professor Pool. Professor Pool was given permission to visit various laboratories and after consultations with Doctor Bessey, Doctor Wolcot and others, he handed to the architect his first sketches. It was still hoped, however, that we could have a celebration on his birthday which would represent the breaking of the ground even though the plans were not complete. No one hoped for the completion of the plans, let alone laying the cornerstone, but the citizens' committee that was securing the ground for us found it impracticable to have the space vacated at that time. In the meantime Doctor Bessey's death followed and it seemed best to postpone the exercises planned until the actual laying of the cornerstone. The first pencil sketch of the building showed a more expensive building than it seemed wise to build, especially since the Legislature expects that most of the departments of the university will be fairly well housed with this appropriation. Personally the regents would have been glad to spend any sum given them as a memorial to Doctor Bessey, but they could not go beyond a certain limit in justice to other departments and to the taxpayers.

"However, the cutting down of tentative sketches has not resulted in a delay of more than four weeks. The main delay is in giving the professors an opportunity to work out their thoughts and to plan to provide for their various needs. An arbitrary and unsympathetic administration could hustle matters along and satisfy certain misdirected popular clamor, but the results in the end would not be as happy. However, it is expected that the complete plans and specifications will be ready for the bidders in about two weeks.

#### NEW CHEMISTRY BUILDING

"The plans for the chemistry building are nearly as far along. While this building will house more students than the biological building, it is adapted for a single department only. Hence it has been planned with less discussion and adjustments. The head of the chemical department has shown himself especially reasonable in his requirements and appreciative of the needs of other departments. The plans of this building will be complete and bids called for presumably before September 1st.

"While the regents have not formally authorized any further construction at the present time, yet studies are being made for a building to house political and social science, history and possibly psychology. Just now conferences are under way looking towards extending this building into a home for those departments of the arts college commonly known as the humanities. Whether the larger

arts college building or the smaller social science building will become an actuality can probably not be definitely decided until after the professors return from their vacations. In working with the professors the regents and the chancellor have constantly sought to guide but not to dictate. The administration has endeavored to avoid mistakes and to secure a harmonious, symmetrical development of the institution, but does not in any way wish to suppress an expression of the technical skill, insight and comprehension of departmental needs that must come from the professors who are to use the buildings. Hence, a little delay is preferable to arbitrary acceleration.

"If the building just referred to should take the form of a special home for the arts college, it will probably be approximately as large and expensive as the Bessey Building and the chemistry building combined.

"Tentative plans have also been made for an education building to house our educational departments and the Temple High School. The development of these plans will depend somewhat on the form that the third building assumes. The various men connected with the teachers' college have not sufficiently threshed out the matter to reach unanimity of opinion as to what departments should be housed in the education building.

"The buildings that I have outlined will somewhat more than exceed the appropriation now available, but there will be the two final years of the levy, which will doubtless be made available by the next Legislature.

"In the grouping of buildings care has been taken to have allied departments situated in close proximity. The engineering college will ultimately be extended along the athletic field, starting from the present mechanical engineering laboratories. The chemistry building will in a sense link engineering with the biological sciences. The new library, which may not be built during the present generation, will occupy a central position. The museum, auditorium, art galleries, etc., which probably cannot be built out of the present levy, will occupy a commanding position closing the vista of Thirteenth Street. The building for political and social science, which as before stated may be extended into an arts college building, appears on the layout as occupying the space on the new campus just across from the old chemical laboratory. The sketch shows an L-shaped building longest on Twelfth Street, but extending a considerable distance east in a line projected from Memorial Hall.

#### STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE

"Probably the style of architecture of the new buildings has been discussed as much as any other subject. About this much has been definitely determined: The buildings will be of classical style, Gothic being too expensive and not in harmony with the buildings already erected, some of which as the temple, the law building, the mechanical engineering laboratories, are very worthy structures. The building material will be of red brick. A modest amount of cut Bedford stone will be used in the trimmings. The buildings will be of the steel structure wall bearing type. In other words, the interior frames will be of steel but the walls will carry their own load and support in part the steel inner structure. They will, of course, be entirely fireproof. Dignity, harmony and a reasonable, though not deadly, uniformity will dominate the grounds. The architects will depend



more on proportion, symmetry and landscape gardening for effects than on ornate architecture.

"While the buildings will be as permanent as it is possible to build them, the cost will not be excessive. The buildings at the University of Chicago will run about 35 cents per cubic foot. At Princeton the expense is as high as 45 cents. On the other hand, some very plain reinforced concrete buildings have been built at state universities for as low as 13 cents per cubic foot and it has been well remarked, 'They look it.' Probably the new buildings will run from 15 cents to 20 cents per cubic foot owing to the character of the buildings. It is needless to say that the cost will vary in accordance with the number and size of rooms per building, the amount of laboratory fixtures required and other varying features. Little will be spent for marble and other decorative effects, but on the other hand special attention will be paid to heating, ventilation, sanitation, convenience and general utility.

"It should be remembered that the total sum is not large in comparison with the amounts expended at Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin. If it were the regents would confine themselves to two-story buildings. As it is, it seems necessary to build three stories and also to utilize some basement space in addition to this for storage and locker rooms. However, especial attention is being paid to locating those departments and rooms most used by women on the first and second floors. Basements and attics will be used, if at all, principally by the young men.

#### APPRECIATE COMMITTEE'S WORK

"The public may be further interested to know that the university authorities appreciate highly the work of the very efficient citizens' committee in securing the ground. The problem of extending the campus from seventeen to forty acres at an expense of only \$300,000 to the state has been an exceedingly difficult one and the State of Nebraska owes much to the citizens' committee for the way in which it is being handled.

"In conclusion I wish to explain why the university has not followed the suggestions sometimes made that we develop something new, unique and characteristic of Nebraska in the form of architecture. Our architectural advisors make this answer: 'Architecture is a growth. We can no more create a fiat style than we can a fiat language. We can no more have Nebraska architecture than we can have Nebraska music. If we should vary violently from established lines, we would simply develop some freak buildings which presumably in the end would please no one.'"

#### COTNER UNIVERSITY AND BETHANY

By J. Z. Briscoe

The Nebraska Christian University was the outgrowth of a desire upon the part of many members of the Church of Christ to enlarge the work in Nebraska. During the year 1887 the Baptists held a meeting in the City of Lincoln, with a view to locating a seat of learning in that vicinity. During that meeting a proposition was made to them offering to donate 250 acres of land, if they would locate on the present site of Cotner University. The conference failed to agree on the

advisability of starting a new institution in this state and upon their failure to accept the offer submitted to them the donors approached the members of the Christian Church with a proposition increasing the donation to about three hundred acres. In July, 1887, the state mission appointed a committee of which C. C. Munson was chairman to "receive propositions to donate lands, etc., for the location of a Nebraska State Christian University and to report results to the convention to be held at Fairfield in August." This was done and a committee of seven appointed by the convention "to receive and accept propositions, incorporate, hold property for, and locate such schools and colleges, and take such other steps as the best interests of the brotherhood of this state, in their judgment may demand." The committee consisted of the following persons: J. Z. Briscoe, chairman; Porter Hedge, secretary; W. P. Aylsworth, G. E. Bigelow, J. B. Johnson, W. W. West and E. T. Gadd.

The first meeting of this committee was held at the store room of Webster & Briscoe, where organization was made and adjournment had to the Windsor Hotel in the afternoon, where the committee was met by Prof. Neill Johnson, Sam McClay, W. Rulifson and Theodore F. Barnes, who at once conducted the committee to view the present site of Cotner University, then a dense corn field and known as the Hawley Farm. At this time no definite proposition was made. Negotiations were continued from this time until May 31, 1888, when the following report was submitted by Messrs. Bonell and Cropsey on the part of the donors:

"To the committee on location of Christian University: Gentlemen—We herewith hand you contracts for deeds of land donated to Christian University as follows: B. L. Paine, 23 acres; Bond and Colby, 10 acres; W. H. Goodrich, 20 acres; W. Young, 10 acres; A. J. Cropsey, 85 acres; F. M. Hosford, 5 acres; L. G. Leavitt, 5 acres; Stevens and Glade, 10 acres; Melick and McClay, 20 acres; Lucy Morgan, 15 acres; J. Z. Briscoe, 10 acres; C. F. Goodman, 10 acres; W. Rulifson, 12½ acres; W. Lennard, 10 acres; W. W. Webster, 10 acres; W. S. Mills, 10 acres." In addition to this A. G. Thompson, F. L. Sheldon, J. E. Houtz, and J. D. MacFarland donated one lot each and T. M. Marquett 12 lots.

The proposition was accepted and the location of the proposed university was declared to be upon the northeast quarter of section 16, township 10 north, range 7 east of the 6th principal meridian. The only competing site was the location of the later Western Normal (now Nebraska Military Academy site), at which point the committee was offered 500 acres for the location.

On the 14th day of February, 1888, the following named met with the committee at the Capitol Hotel in Lincoln: Ex-Governor Saunders, George S. Smith and W. H. Gadd, of Omaha; C. W. Henry, C. R. Van Duyn and C. C. Munson, of Lincoln. After visiting the proposed site adjournment was had until evening, when the above named again met with the committee for the purpose of adopting articles of incorporation, which had been carefully prepared by Porter Hedge. After discussion of the different articles, on motion of George S. Smith they were unanimously adopted, signed and acknowledged. The following are the names of the incorporators: Alvin Saunders, J. Z. Briscoe, E. T. Gadd, W. P. Aylsworth, George S. Smith, Charles R. Van Duyn, C. C. Munson. These men, with S. D. Mercer, Thomas Wiles and J. B. Strode constituted the first board of trustees until the next meeting of the Nebraska Christian Convention.



CORNER UNIVERSITY, BETHANY



At the second meeting of the board on March 4, 1888, it was ordered that the executive committee proceed at once to plat and sell the lands belonging to the university. It was found on application that Mr. Cropsey was unable to make a title to the eighty-five acres which he had subscribed, it being largely encumbered and he only had possession of an option upon the land. In this extremity a syndicate was formed, consisting of C. C. Munson, C. R. Van Dusen, Porter Hedge and J. Z. Briscoe, which undertook to purchase the quarter section out of which the donation was made and release the campus of twenty acres and alternate blocks which were to be deeded to the university free from all incumbrance. This was accomplished, but was no easy task. The title having been cleared, the land was platted by J. P. Walton, county surveyor, at a cost of \$232.09 and named after the denomination's oldest college, "Bethany" Heights. The main street of the village was called Saunders Avenue in honor of the oldest member of the board.

The donors having turned over deeds to the property donated, the board gave a bond for \$150,000 for the faithful performance of their part of the obligation, which was to erect a building worth at least fifty thousand dollars, within a certain limit of time. The committee on plans reported favorably on O. H. Placy, and accordingly his plans were adopted and a contract entered into, in which he was to serve both as architect and superintendent at a compensation of \$1,000.

In answer to advertisements for bids on foundation there were five presented, prices ranging from \$0.965 to \$12,500. The bid of Thomas Price and Company was accepted, it being \$11,572, and contract signed July 21, 1888. The honor of holding the plow which threw the first dirt from the foundation was conferred upon Col. E. T. Gadd, who had been employed agent for the sale of the property of the school. The Nebraska Christian Missionary Society held its annual convention during this year with the First Church at Lincoln in St. Paul's M. E. Church. The first price lists of lots was presented by the committee appointed for that purpose on July 6th and adopted, fixing prices at an average of about \$200 each. An auction sale of lots was held during the above named convention and that body invited to attend. The cornerstone was laid during the afternoon and about \$8,000 worth of lots were sold at from \$150 to \$300 each.

By request of the convention in session in Lincoln, August 30, 1888, a long and tedious attempt was made to unite Fairfield College and the university. To this end they had placed two brethren from Fairfield on the board. A report on the liabilities and assets of Fairfield College was made by W. T. Newcomb, as follows: total assets, \$7,102.25; liabilities, \$16,933, with \$400 outlying lots unsold.

On September 26th a building committee was appointed, consisting of J. Z. Briscoe, chairman, C. C. Munson and E. T. Gadd, who at once proceeded to carry out the work of construction of the building. The contract was let to Chester and Barris for \$47,000 on March 4, 1889. The building was to be finished by the middle of the next January.

The faculty for the first year was as follows: W. P. Aylsworth, vice president, professor of biblical literature and occupant of the Briscoe Bible chair; A. M. Chamberlain, professor of ancient languages; P. B. Burnett, professor of modern languages; E. D. Harris, preparatory department; Mrs. W. P. Sterns, instrumental music; A. Webber, vocal; Almeda Parker, elocution; Dr. A. T. Noe of Nemaha City, anatomy and physiology; Lulu Murphy, drawing.

## CHAPTER XXII

### THE CHURCHES IN LINCOLN AND SUBURBS

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL DENOMINATION

First in the list of churches of this denomination in Lancaster County may be mentioned the St. Paul Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln. This is one of the pioneer churches of the county and today is one of the largest. The first Methodist meetings in the county were held in the old Town of Lancaster, before the founding of Lincoln. The first class was in charge of Robert Hawks, an itinerant preacher, who had been appointed in 1867. At the close of the first conference year the Lancaster class had a total of sixteen members. When the state capital was established at the new Town of Lincoln the class was moved there. In the spring of 1868 the class was made a station and named the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln. Rev. H. T. Davis was appointed the first pastor, residing in Lincoln. Prior to his coming services had been carried on in a small frame church building at the corner of Tenth and P streets. Among the more prominent of the sixteen members then composing the class were Captain Baird and wife, John Cadman and wife, William Cadman, A. K. White and wife, J. Kimball and wife, Mrs. J. Schoolcraft; J. Kimball was the class leader. At the end of the first year the number of members had increased and to accommodate them a \$2,000 church building was erected on the spot where the St. Paul Church now stands on the corner of Twelfth and M streets; the old church building was cleared of a \$400 mortgage and sold for school purposes. Reverend Davis remained with this church for three years, having a membership of 202 at the close of his pastorate. The pastors who have served the St. Paul Church since this time until the present are as follows: Revs. J. J. Roberts, G. S. Alexander, W. B. Slaughter, H. S. Henderson, A. C. Williams, R. N. McKaig, C. F. Creighton, J. S. Bitler, F. S. Stein, C. C. Lasby, W. R. Halstead, Fletcher L. Wharton, J. W. Jones, I. F. Roach, T. W. Jeffrey. Reverend Jeffrey began his service on March 1, 1913.

During the pastorate of Reverend Roberts the first church parsonage was constructed. While Reverend McKaig was pastor of the church there grew up a sentiment for a new building for worship. On April 23, 1883, an official meeting of the church was held and the decision was reached to begin the erection of a new building at once. Committees were appointed to superintend the various departments of the work. On June 11th the plans of Mr. Wilcox of Minneapolis were accepted, the cost of the building placed at \$25,000. Ground was broken for the new church on July 1st and the cornerstone laid by Reverend Marine in the spring of 1884. The church was dedicated by Bishop Bowman on Sunday,

August 23, 1885. Instead of costing the original amount of \$25,000 as planned fully \$45,000 was expended before the structure was completed. In the fall of 1883 the name of the church was changed from the First Methodist Episcopal to the St. Paul Methodist Episcopal.

The church structure was used by the society until September 16, 1899, when flames destroyed the building. Plans were at once made for the erection of a new church and during the progress of the building the St. Paul congregation held services in the Oliver Theater and in other churches. The new building was opened to the society in November, 1901.

The Grace Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885. On March 19th of that year the St. Paul Church decided to build another church east of the Antelope. This decision was the result of the enormous growth in the church membership to 1,200 people, due in great part to the Bitler revival which had taken place just previously. A site was selected and a temporary tabernacle constructed for use until a new building could be erected. The new church was begun on the corner of R and Twenty-seventh streets and within four months was ready for occupancy. At the annual conference held in the following September Rev. J. T. Minchart was appointed pastor of the new church. The society was officially named the Grace M. E. Church and the church, which had cost \$11,000, was dedicated on September 19, 1889, by Bishop Warren. In 1894 the church building was rebuilt and the cornerstone reset, the latter event taking place on July 11th of that year. This building served the needs of the congregation until the present \$60,000 structure was erected. The cornerstone of the new church was laid August 4, 1912, and the finished building was dedicated June 1, 1913. The total church property, including the parsonage, is worth about eighty thousand dollars. The following men have served as pastors of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church: Revs. J. S. W. Dean, George W. Isham, Charles M. Shepherd, Lewis T. Guild, Richard N. Orrill, P. P. Carroll, D. L. Thomas, J. W. Jones, H. B. Collins and J. F. Boeye. The church has a membership of about eleven hundred people.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln had its beginning as early as the year 1869. The first Nebraska Legislature in this year donated three city lots for the German Methodist Church at the corner of Fifteenth and M streets. There was no German society here at that time and no German who was a member of the Methodist Church except Mr. Adam Bax, who was connected with the First Methodist. Governor Butler called upon Mr. Bax and insisted that he should build the church, that it had to be done before July 1st in order to retain the lots. The governor offered to contribute \$125 as a start to a building fund; Colonel Cropsey volunteered a donation of \$120; Thomas P. Kennard, then secretary of state, gave \$75; John Gillespie, auditor of state, presented \$50. Mr. Bax canvassed the east side of the public square in Lincoln and secured promises of money to the amount of \$840 for the new building. The presiding elder of the Methodist Church was appealed to for a German preacher. A small chapel was constructed with the money received, located on the southwest corner of Fifteenth and M. The organization of the German Methodist Episcopal Church was accomplished in the fall of the year 1869 by F. H. Menger, who had a large circuit of congregations. From 1869 until 1872 Revs. H. M. Menger, F. Miller and G. Schultz served intermittently as pastors of the church. From

1872 until 1875 the congregation had no regular pastor. Pastors of other churches in this part of the state frequently came here and preached. In 1875 Rev. H. R. Riemer was sent as regular pastor and he constructed the first parsonage two years later. The following pastors have succeeded Reverend Riemer: Revs. Charles Harms, September, 1878-79; T. J. Kost, 1879-82; F. Unland, 1882-83; Charles Harms, 1883-86; Christian Bruegger, 1886-90; J. J. Hammell, 1890-93; F. Reichard, 1893-94; F. H. Schultz, 1894-96; John Demand, 1896-1902; Charles Harms, 1902-07; William Fricke, 1907-10; H. C. Elfeldt, 1910-13; Matthew Herrmann, 1913-. The old chapel which was built in 1869 was replaced with a beautiful brick structure in 1902. The present membership of the society is 124. Mr. Adam Bax remained a staunch member of the church until his death in Lincoln on December 17, 1915, aged eighty-seven years. The only living charter member of the church is John Giesler. In April, 1914, Reverend Herrmann began the publication of *Der Kleine Bote*, a weekly parish paper.

That which is now the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln was at first a part of the Lincoln Circuit, which embraced several appointments. In the fall of 1878 Rev. A. L. Folden was appointed to the circuit. At the first quarterly conference of the First Church, now St. Paul M. E. Church, a vote was passed requesting Reverend Folden to take an appointment in South Lincoln and a committee of two, J. C. Johnson and Mr. Lawson, were named to assist him in this enterprise. A small building was at first used on Wood Street, between Ninth and Tenth; and after this services were held for a time in the old Universalist Church on Twelfth Street near H. Reverend Folden remained three years in the work here. During the conference year of 1880-81 an effort was made to build a Methodist Church in South Lincoln, but it was bitterly opposed by Rev. A. C. Williams of the First Church. However, a small frame building was erected on A Street, near Twelfth, for \$1,200, and the congregation used this until the fall of 1887. By this time the pastorate had grown from fifty-three members to eighty-four. In the fall of 1887, as mentioned above, the little church building on Twelfth and A streets was presented to a new organization called the Bethel Church, located one mile west, near A Street. The South Lincoln Church erected a new tabernacle on Sixteenth and A streets and within a very few months the membership had grown to 258. Then the church was reorganized and named Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church. During the year 1892 the society erected the chapel part of the present church for \$15,000 on the rear of the lot at Sixteenth and A. No more building was done until the new building was constructed in 1910, costing \$100,000. The plans for this handsome structure were drawn by Reverend Huntington, once pastor of the Trinity Church. The church is one of the most complete in the Capital City, including besides the regular church features, a fully equipped gymnasium. The parsonage was erected in 1896 at a cost of \$8,000. The membership of the church is now approximately one thousand. Following are the names of the pastors who have filled the pulpit at Trinity: Revs. S. P. Vandoozer, A. L. Folden, P. S. Mather, J. Marsh, C. H. Gilmore, H. T. Davis, S. D. Roberts, D. W. C. Huntington, R. T. Chipperfield, N. A. Martin, W. M. Balch, A. J. Northrup, E. D. Hull, E. N. Tompkins.

Occupying a foremost position among the Methodist churches of the city and county is the First Methodist Episcopal Church of University Place. On November 18, 1888, nine men and nine women met in an unfinished room in the



main building of the Nebraska Wesleyan University and there organized this church. They met that day in the old library room, now used by the school of commerce, and there in the light of kerosene lamps held their first services. Chancellor Creighton was the preacher in charge. Doctor Creighton served as pastor by appointment as supply for the first eight months, with Rev. Isaac L. Lowe as assistant. Their work in the university became heavier and they were relieved from pastoral duties. Rev. D. L. Thomas was pastor from July, 1889, until September, 1890. Rev. Asa Sleeth was then appointed to the charge and served for one year, when he became presiding elder of the Lincoln District, and Rev. W. B. Alexander was sent here as pastor. Rev. G. W. Abbott came in 1892 and remained until 1897, when he was succeeded by Rev. James Mailley, who, after serving but a few months, went to the Philippine Islands as chaplain of the Second Regiment, Nebraska Volunteer Infantry. Rev. Hiram Burch supplied by appointment until the following annual conference, when Rev. W. B. Marsh became pastor for two years. He was followed by Rev. L. C. Lemon in September, 1900, and was reappointed each year until 1904. Rev. P. P. Carroll then came from Grace M. E. Church of Lincoln to this charge and after two years was succeeded by Rev. W. P. Ferguson. The latter stayed but six months and then came Chancellor-Emeritus D. W. C. Huntington who served out the conference year as supply. In 1907 Rev. L. M. Grigsby came and remained until 1910, when Rev. I. B. Schreckengast assumed charge of the pastorate. In April, 1913, Dr. E. S. Brightman took the place of Reverend Schreckengast when the latter became vice-chancellor of the university. In September of the same year Rev. J. R. Gettys became the pastor and served until the present minister, Rev. Charles W. McCaskill, came in 1915. The membership of the church is about twelve hundred.

After the beginning of this church the place of meeting was soon moved to the old chapel, which was the church home until 1902, when the society moved into the basement of a proposed church building on the site of the present edifice and which was known as the "hole in the ground" church. After five years spent here the auditorium of the C. C. White Memorial Building was utilized until the construction of the present church building, which is one of the handsomest and most impressive of any similar building in the county. The new building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies on December 12, 1909.

Following is the list of charter members of the First M. E. Church of University Place: Mrs. C. F. Creighton, Emma T. Cline, G. E. Giwits, H. E. Hanthorne, Myrtle Learned, O. P. Sheldon, Mrs. O. P. Sheldon, Mable Sheldon, T. W. Sprowles, Phillip H. Smith, W. H. Turrell, Mrs. Hannah R. Warfield, Hattie Warfield, Laura A. Weed, A. R. Wightman, Anna J. Wightman, Rev. C. F. Creighton, Rev. I. L. Lowe.

The Emmanuel Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln was founded August 15, 1888, Rev. W. W. Mallory being the first pastor. Services were first held in a building on T Street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth, known as the Red Ribbon Hall. Soon after this J. M. Burks organized a Sunday school. The name Emmanuel was given by the presiding elder, W. G. Miller. In 1890 the congregation moved from their hall to a church building at the corner of Thirteenth and U streets, which they used until the present building was completed. The cornerstone of this new structure was laid July 7, 1912, and the dedication occurred

November 17, 1912; the total cost of the building was \$12,500. Following are the names of the pastors who have served this church: Revs. W. W. Mallory, L. T. Guild, W. J. Calfee, T. W. Sprowles, O. W. Fifer, L. C. Lemon, F. A. Stuff, J. W. Embree, L. F. Smith, G. M. Gates, Peter Van Kleet, A. A. Randall, E. L. Barch, C. E. Carroll, S. B. Williams. The Emmanuel Church is located at 643 North Fifteenth Street.

The First Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln was organized July 8, 1889, in the home of August Kallstedt, 1919 O Street, by the district superintendent, Rev. Olin Swenson. Rev. J. B. Anderson was the first pastor and the successive pastors have been: Revs. A. F. Winell, A. R. Mellen, Peter Munson, C. A. Anderson, J. Gabrielson, O. G. Sandberg, Gustav Erickson and K. G. Norberg. The charter members of the society were: Gust Reynolds and wife, Leonard Tidstrand, Mrs. Sophia Hill, O. J. Linder, Carl John Malm, Miss Caroline Larson, Miss Mary Dahlgren, Miss Mary Nelson, Miss Mary Erickson, August Kallstedt and wife, and Axel Segerholm. There are at present about one hundred members in the society. In 1891 the first church was built at Eighteenth and R streets. In the spring of 1892, when the Rock Island Railroad was built through Lincoln, the property was sold to them, a lot bought at Eighteenth and J streets for \$2,400. The old church was moved on to this lot and used for twelve years. In 1903 the present church was built, costing the sum of \$8,000.

The Elm Park Methodist Episcopal Church was first organized as a Sunday School in May, 1906, in a store room at Twenty-seventh and Randolph streets, by Rev. W. W. McGuire and was known as the Randolph Mission. There were less than a dozen enrolled, mostly children. It was in the summer of 1907 that the church was really organized and a building started on the corner of Twenty-ninth and Randolph streets. This building was dedicated March 9, 1908, by Bishop McDowell. The following have served as pastors here: Revs. J. H. Bounds, H. W. Cope, B. L. Story, Whitney, J. D. Hollister and L. L. Hanthorne. A modern parsonage was built in 1914. The present membership of the church is 200.

The Lincoln Heights Methodist Episcopal Church was started about the year 1891. The first trustees were elected on March 19, 1891, and were: Ephraim Rife, H. J. Rickard, H. J. Phillips, W. C. Hook, George Camp, John Ferrier; Rev. G. W. Miller was chairman of the meeting. The church was built in 1892, located at Seventh and Superior streets, and dedicated in February, 1893, by D. W. C. Huntington, D. D., with thirty-three members. For several years the church was quite prosperous and its membership increased until numbering eighty-five. After this the membership dwindled until in 1903 there were only eight left. During the pastorate of E. E. Bowen, a university student, the dilapidated church was moved to the present location at the corner of Eleventh and Nelson streets. The building was repaired and reopened on January 10, 1904. Since then the society had been growing steadily and the membership is now about one hundred and forty. The first pastor of the church was M. A. Wimberley, and since then the following have served: R. N. Orrill, R. J. McKenzie, C. L. Myers, J. A. Nichols, A. D. Hull, R. C. Howard, J. W. Warfield, C. E. Rush, L. L. Gaither, J. Fowler, H. B. Seymour, A. S. Woodard, E. E. Bowen, C. E. Austin, J. McVay, W. S. Ryle, C. G. Cole, O. L. Kendall, E. V. Price.

The Free Methodist Church of Lincoln was started at Fifteenth and Vine streets in the spring of 1889 by Rev. W. W. Harris. The charter members were: Mrs. A. C. Baltzell, J. V. Parks, Mr. Marshall and Mrs. Eggar. In 1894 the first church was constructed at Thirtieth and Y streets. In 1905 the location mentioned above was sold to the Interurban Street Car Company and another location was secured on Twenty-seventh and Orchard streets. The first conference minister was Reverend Stephens, who was followed by Reverends Taylor, Josephine Ackerman, Deaxter, Hatfield, Steward, Barnes, Finch, Anispoker, Eggers, Bruce, Mary E. Stafford, McElfresh, J. L. Riley, C. L. Manning and C. L. Fike. The present membership is sixty-one.

Warren Methodist Episcopal Church at University Place was organized by Dr. G. W. Isham. He was appointed pastor for three successive years. This church was started in 1908. The present membership is 140.

The St. James Methodist Episcopal Church of University Place was organized in 1910 and now has a membership of thirty-five.

Normal Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1901 and now has a membership of 120. The church is located at the corner of South and Fifty-fifth streets.

The Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1890. The church building is located at 2900 Dudley. The membership is 170.

The Havelock Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885 and has a membership of 280.

The City of Lincoln has two colored Methodist churches, the First African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Neumann Methodist Episcopal Church. The former was organized in the year 1873 and now has a membership of 130. The church is located at 1845 C Street. The Neumann Church was organized in 1895, has fifty members, and is situated at 733 J Street.

The statement has been truthfully made that the City of Lincoln has more Methodists "per capita" than any other city in the United States.

#### PRESBYTERIAN DENOMINATION

The First Presbyterian Church of Lincoln was organized on April 4, 1869, by Rev. J. C. Elliott, at that time a pastor in Nebraska City. There were eight charter members, namely: Howard Kennedy, Mrs. Maggie A. Kennedy, Paren England, Malinda W. England, John H. Baird, Mrs. Serena Baird, A. M. McCandless and Mrs. E. A. Guy. Howard Kennedy was elected ruling elder and the church was declared duly organized. At first it was impossible to hold regular services as there was no regular pastor and no meeting place. But after a few months a frame building on O Street, near the present site of the First National Bank, was rented and the real work of the church begun. The first members were received in this building, the first adult baptized and the first communion service held. The first child baptized was Howard Kennedy. The first persons to unite with the church by certificate were: W. J. Turner, John N. T. Jones, Mrs. E. L. Jones, Cyrus H. Street, Charles McManon, Samuel Alexander, John Morrison, James Eckerman, Dr. L. H. Robbins, Mrs. M. A. Robbins, W. A. Kellogg. The first person received on profession of faith was B. M. Brake and

the first death among the membership was that of A. M. McCandless, one of the charter members.

The pastors who have served since the first one, Rev. H. P. Peck, 1870-74, have been: J. W. Ellis, 1875-76; S. W. Weller, 1876-78; James Kemlo, 1879; J. O. Gordon, 1880-82; E. H. Curtis, 1883-95; W. M. Hindman, 1896-1902; H. C. Swearingen, 1902-07; W. W. Lawrence, 1908-13; L. D. Young, 1915-. Reverend Stein supplied the church in 1914.

The first church edifice was erected at the corner of Eleventh and J streets, on lots donated by the state, and was dedicated on October 9, 1870, by Rev. T. H. Cleland, then of Council Bluffs, Iowa. This first church cost the Presbyterians \$5,000 and, with several improvements, continued to hold the society until December, 1884. In April, 1884, ground was broken for the erection of the present church building at the southwest corner of Thirteenth and M streets. The vestry room was completed in September, 1885, and was occupied as a place of worship until January, 1886, when the main auditorium was finished. This church building, which had cost \$40,000, was dedicated on July 18, 1886, by Rev. A. V. V. Raymond.

In October, 1888, a number of persons interested in the work met in a vacant store building near the corner of O and Twenty-seventh streets and organized a Sabbath School. This was the beginning of the Second Presbyterian Church of Lincoln. At the meeting there were sixty-four persons enrolled as members of the school and Thomas Marsland was chosen superintendent, George G. Waite, secretary, and Almon Tower, treasurer. A full corps of teachers was organized and classes grouped. Preaching services were held every Sunday in this store room until February 14, 1889, when the school moved into the basement of a church being erected on the corner of Twenty-sixth and P streets, on lots donated in part by William M. Clark. On the evening of March 13, 1889, a meeting was held and a church formally organized, to be known as the Second Presbyterian Church of Lincoln, Nebraska. There were forty-six charter members. The first elders elected were: Myron Tower, Thomas Marsland, W. C. Cunningham and William M. Clark. On April 1, 1889, Rev. Charles E. Bradt took charge of the work.

On May 16, 1890 at Warn's Chapel on Wood Street the Third Presbyterian Church was organized. J. W. McMillan and C. S. Clason were elected elders and Rev. C. G. A. Hullhorst was chosen as the first pastor. A chapel was constructed and work begun on the corner of Eleventh and Plum streets. In 1894 this chapel was enlarged. The Third Church is not now in existence, having disbanded several years ago. The building became the Knox Presbyterian Church, then, and now, the St. John's Lutheran house of worship.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church of Lincoln was organized at Westminster Chapel, Twenty-fourth and A streets, on February 12, 1905. Rev. Thomas L. Sexton, D. D., synodical superintendent of home missions, presided. E. R. Mockett was elected clerk. The sermon was preached by Rev. R. M. Stevenson. There were forty-one charter members of this church, namely: E. R. Mockett, Mrs. Ada C. Mockett, E. E. Mockett, Mrs. N. N. Mockett, Mrs. N. S. Nichols, Mrs. L. Schwind, Miss N. Schwind, Miss Faith Schwind, Mrs. M. Schlueter, Mrs. H. Needham, Mrs. L. Needham, A. E. Patch, Mrs. Bessie Patch, Miss Hazel Patch, Theodore Randolph, Mrs. Alice Randolph, Mrs. M. L. Strother, Mary C.

Young, Florence Ward, Nellie Ward, Lillian Ward, Dora Merritt, Frank Miller, Kate Dunkle, H. A. Carr, L. J. Dunn, Clinton Hosick, Mrs. Anna Hosick, Mrs. Ellen Rowcliffe, Mrs. Mary E. Hutchinson, Miss L. Young, Miss Minnie Hutchinson, Mrs. S. A. Betzer, Mrs. S. L. Lyman, Mrs. Mary L. Gabriel, John G. Bowers, Mrs. D. Bowers, Mrs. Susie E. Jones and Mrs. D. B. Abbott. The church building for the society was constructed in the year 1906. There are now 257 members. Following are the pastors who have served this congregation: Revs. R. M. Stevenson, Ralph H. Houseman, H. V. Comir and Rudolph Caughey.

The Memorial United Presbyterian Church of Lincoln was organized December 22, 1890, at the corner of Sixteenth and R streets by Rev. J. A. Duff of Minden and Elder W. I. Brooks of Pawnee City. Albert Small and G. E. Sloss were chosen ruling elders. The charter members of this church were: Mrs. Mary Anderson, W. H. Boyd, Mrs. M. J. Campbell, Miss Alice L. Campbell, Miss Ella J. Campbell, Miss Emma O. Campbell, W. R. Carter, Mrs. Anna Carter, William Ellis, Miss Marion M. Embleton, Samuel R. Edmondson, Dr. F. A. Graham, Miss Jennie Graham, Alexander Hutton, Mrs. Mary E. Hutton, Thomas Hutton, Mrs. Sarah A. Hutton, Elmer S. Hutton, Miss Isabella J. Hutton, James Humphrey, Mrs. Nancy Humphrey, Mrs. S. V. Hubbard, Miss Eva M. Irwin, Mrs. O. S. Morrow, Miss Jennie Morrison, Mrs. Elizabeth McEwen, James McNerney, Miss Libbie McNerney, Mrs. Anna R. Stewart, Albert Small, Mrs. M. J. Small, G. E. Sloss, Mrs. Mollie Sloss, Mrs. E. J. Said, W. L. Said, Mrs. Underwood. Rev. O. S. Morrow was the first pastor of the church and was followed by Revs. E. E. Fife, D. E. Smith, W. M. Lorimer, J. A. Thompson, C. B. Gilmore, Albert Gordon and S. W. Woodburn. In 1890 a small frame building was constructed for church purposes. In 1893 the present church was completed and the parsonage in 1906. There are at present seventy-five members of this church society.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church of University Place had its start in 1907. In January of that year Reverend Thompson, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Lincoln came to University Place and preached a sermon in Beebe's Hall. After preaching for several Sundays and awakening spirit among the Presbyterians here the question of organizing a church was brought up, but was not favored owing to the fact that there were not enough people of the Presbyterian faith to justify it. Then Rev. M. Long of Lincoln came to University Place and held services in the afternoons at Beebe's Hall for several months. On April 21st an organization was perfected with thirty-six charter members. On December 1, 1907, J. E. Weir was secured as the first regular pastor. Rev. I. Keener came next and is in charge at present. In 1910 the society erected a \$10,000.00 church building. The cornerstone was laid May 15th and the dedication occurred September 11th. The membership is about two hundred.

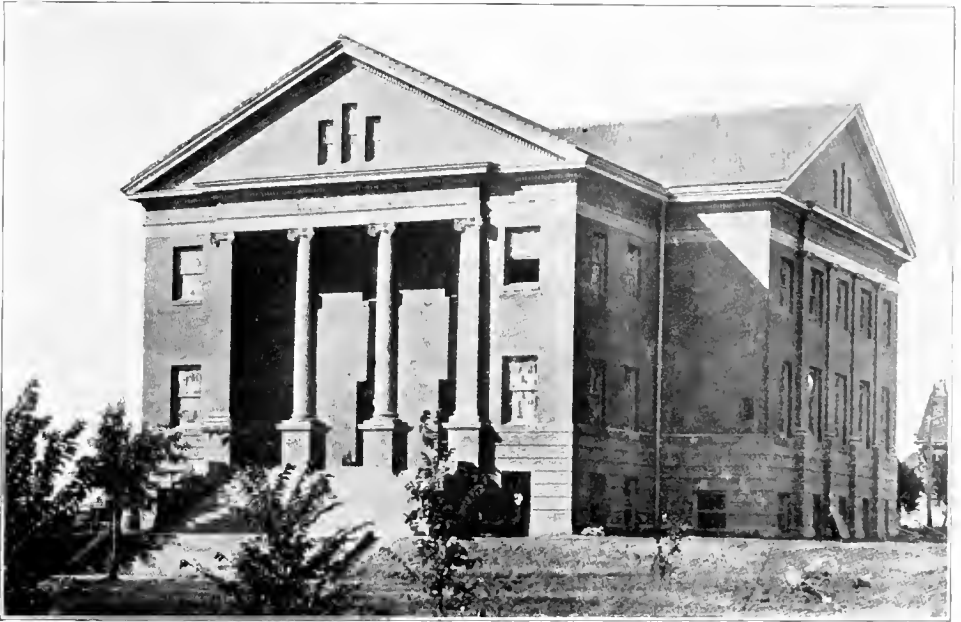
#### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Lincoln was organized October 10, 1902, and took the place of the First and Second churches that had already existed. About one hundred and twenty-five persons first met in the Farmers and Merchants Building and there proceeded to the organization. The membership book was opened for those who desired to enroll themselves as charter members

and at the close of a thirty-day period 133 persons had written their names. The readers chosen to conduct the services for the first term of three years were Horace W. Hebbard and Mrs. Emma Hagenow. The hall in the fraternity building was leased for the services of the society. The congregations for the first few months averaged between 300 and 400. The attendance steadily increased and it became evident before long that larger quarters would soon be necessary. Accordingly the question of building a church was agitated. About seven hundred dollars had been paid into the treasury as a nucleus to a building fund at the time of the organization of the church. At the annual meeting on October 9, 1903, a building committee of five members was elected, namely: William M. Leonard, Arthur C. Ziemer, Royal D. Stearns, Elon W. Nelson and Horace W. Hebbard. The first work of the committee was the selection of a site for a church edifice. Several locations were discussed, but the committee finally decided on the two lots, corner of Twelfth and L streets, belonging to Dr. B. L. Paine. This was on March 14, 1904. There was at that time about two thousand two hundred dollars in the building fund and the price of the lots was \$7,000.00. The committee agreed to pay \$3,500.00 in twenty days from the time of purchase. At the close of the time, owing to the liberal response, \$5,000.00 was paid on the lots. Work was then started upon a fund to build the church, but shortly afterward the building of the extension of the mother church in Boston was undertaken and the work of raising a fund for the Lincoln Church was suspended in order that aid might be more freely given to the mother church. In June, 1906, the Lincoln work was opened again. Plans for a church building submitted by S. S. Beman of Chicago to cost between \$65,000.00 and \$75,000.00 had been adopted, but as the church was not yet ready to undertake so extensive a work, the plan was presented of building a part of the structure, that part which would eventually be used as a Sunday School room, to be used for holding services until the main part of the building could be erected. On February 21, 1907, a contract was signed for the erection of this portion of the building and on Thanksgiving Day of the same year the first services were held therein. About the first of July, 1908, the stone foundation for the balance of the structure was completed. At the semi-annual meeting on July 6, 1911, a contract was let to F. P. Gould & Son of Omaha for the completion of the church, for the sum of \$54,400.00. The cornerstone of the new building was laid on October 6, 1911. The Christian Scientist Church in Lincoln is one of the handsomest buildings in the city, both in architectural beauty and finish. The church society is in a very prosperous condition and has a strong membership.

#### LUTHERAN CHURCHES

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lincoln was formally organized on December 20, 1870, by Rev. S. G. Larson of Saunders County. There were fifteen charter members, namely: A. Coppom, L. P. Lundgren and wife, John Nelson, A. G. Quick, John Lyon, Carl Lundquist, P. Bengtson, Alfred Anderson, Gustaf Bengtson, Miss Augusta Lusch, Miss Lotta Widen, Miss Thilda Bengtson, Miss Bengta Didrick and Miss Nilla Didrick. Rev. S. G. Larson was the first pastor of the congregation, although he never located permanently in Lincoln. He resided at Mead, Saunders County, Nebraska. The first resident pastor was



CHURCH OF CHRIST, BETHANY





Rev. L. P. Ahlquist, who came in 1874 and remained one year. After his departure the church was vacant, being served by neighboring pastors and theological students until 1886, when Rev. G. Peters from Rockford, Illinois, took up the work. Rev. F. N. Swanberg was here in 1888 and in the summer of 1889 Rev. John Eckstrom came, remaining three years. Rev. G. Peters then returned and stayed for a year and a half. In the summer of 1896 Rev. Carl Christenson came here and remained about three years, and was succeeded in 1900 by Rev. E. G. Chinnud. The latter left in September, 1907. The present pastor, E. G. Knock, entered upon his duties July 26, 1908. The first church building was erected in the spring of 1871, costing \$1,041.00. In the year 1886 a new church was constructed, the main building of frame and with a stone basement. The contract was let for \$3,487.00. During the summer of 1910 the basement of the church was enlarged; a pipe organ was installed in 1912. In the year 1905 this frame building was covered with a brick veneer and a wing added. The first parsonage, a cottage, was built in 1888 and in 1898 a second story was added. A new brick structure will be built in the spring of 1916. The total membership of the Swedish Lutheran Church is 274; the church property is valued at \$27,000.00.

The Trinity German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lincoln was organized November 24 or 27, 1881, with five members, Rev. F. Koenig presiding. Rev. H. Frincke, the first regular pastor, was called during the following spring, and served a long period, until July, 1895. In February, 1896, Rev. George Allenbach assumed charge of the pastorate, coming from Independence, Kansas, and has remained continuously ever since. During the first year of the church's existence services were held in a small church on the corner of N and Thirteenth streets. The following three years the congregation assembled in the Universalist Church on Twelfth between H and J streets. In the spring of 1886 a new church was constructed, located on H, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. In the rear of the church a school room accommodating ninety pupils was built. In the year 1904 a new Gothic structure was erected and dedicated November 6, 1904. It is located at 1302 H Street. The membership of this church is 500.

The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lincoln was organized in 1883 by Rev. Peter Jensen, who also served as the first pastor. Following him the pastors who have served are: Revs. P. L. C. Hansen, C. H. Jensen, J. Markenssen, E. Provensen, O. R. Olsen, A. C. Weismann, J. P. Christiansen and Christian Anker. The church building was erected in the year 1883. There are at present ninety-five members and the society is in good financial condition.

The Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel Church in Lincoln was started in 1909. Upon the request of twenty-three Lutheran families who had emigrated from the Wolga Colonies, Russia, the Home Mission Board of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states, Nebraska District, decided to begin mission work among the German Russians in Lincoln and called Rev. W. F. Baeder of Arapahoe, Nebraska. He was installed as missionary July 4, 1909, in Trinity Lutheran Church by Rev. C. H. Becker. As these people wished their children educated not only in all the branches of human wisdom, but especially in the Christian truths, a property was bought at Eighth and D streets for \$4,200.00 and a chapel or school building was erected for \$1,500.00. Beginning with September Reverend Baeder opened a Christian day school and conducted it until

January, 1910. On October 31, 1909, the Evangelical Lutheran Immanuel congregation, Unaltered Augsburg Confession, was organized, the following being the charter members: Andreas Wambold, Georg Batt, Sr., August Bovk, Georg Ring, Jacob Ring, Heinrich Spomer, Alexander Kraft, Heinrich Klein, Heinrich Roemer, Balthasar Spomer, Georg Strauch, Georg Batt, Jr., David Schmidt, Wilhelm Friedrich, Victor Baeder, and their families. In January, 1900, J. J. Troester took charge of the school which had an attendance of seventy-two pupils. In June, 1910, the first school building was moved and a new two-story brick building erected at Eighth and D, costing \$14,000.00, and dedicated November 31, 1910. For the old school which had been moved W. J. Braun was called and opened the class with seventy-three pupils: J. J. Troester conducted the school at Eighth and D. On April 23, 1911, J. H. Brase of Cleveland, Ohio, was installed as principal of both schools. In February, 1913, he resigned and W. J. Braun was called to the principalship of the school at Eighth and D and Prof. E. C. Mueller, of Juniata, Nebraska, was called to the other school. During the winter of 1913-14 there were 325 children in attendance at the schools. Miss Helen Hase and Clara Baeder assisted the teachers. The attendance at present is 215. The present membership of the church is 250.

The Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in the old conservatory of music, Thirteenth and L streets, on June 9, 1890, under the leadership of Rev. Luther P. Ludden. There were thirty charter members. A Sunday School had previously been organized on Christmas, 1889. Reverend Luther acted as the first pastor of the church. Following him have served Revs. Jesse W. Ball, C. Rollin Sherck, Charles H. B. Lewis, Fuller, Bergstesser and R. M. Badger. After worshipping in rented quarters for some years, on September 24, 1893, the congregation occupied a small chapel erected at a cost of \$800.00 on the corner of Fourteenth and F streets. On June 9, 1901, the present structure was dedicated, costing about ten thousand dollars. There are at present 250 confirmed members in the church.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Friedens Church in Lincoln was organized February 15, 1907, at Sixth and D streets, by Revs. E. Pfeiffer and L. Ludden. Prominent among the early members were: Adolph Lebsack, Jr., Conrad Strasheim, John Hoff, Georg Stroh, Georg Sitzmann, Jacob Bauer, Jacob Rohrig, Jacob Lebsack, Peter Scheids. The pastors have been: Revs. J. F. Krueger, M. Koolen and R. Kuehne. The church building was dedicated December 1, 1907, and cost about seventeen thousand dollars. The church also owns a \$5,000.00 parsonage.

The Evangelical Lutheran Christ Church in Lincoln was organized on December 15, 1910, by Rev. W. Baeder, with twenty-six charter members. Shortly before that time, however, a parochial school had been organized with Prof. W. Ott as instructor. Mr. Blau is the present teacher. The enrollment last year was sixty-seven. The first pastor of the church, Rev. F. Brockmann, served but a short time. He was succeeded by Reverend Niermann who resigned in October, 1914. In December of the same year Rev. J. G. Jeske took charge of the church. The first church was constructed in 1911 and cost, inclusive of the lot, \$3,850.00. In 1913 a parsonage was erected. There are now 100 communicant members of the church.

The St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in January, 1912,

by Rev. E. Pfeiffer, who was the first pastor, followed by Revs. J. Schrader and Frederick Rabe. The church and parsonage were purchased from a Presbyterian congregation for \$4,500.00. There are about one hundred members active in this church now.

#### EVANGELICAL DENOMINATION

The Salem Evangelical Church of Lincoln was organized in the fall of 1894 by Rev. S. W. McKesson with the following charter members: S. W. McKesson and wife, B. Mowan and wife, A. W. Pettit, Rev. Jesse Lehman, Mrs. Ann Lehman, Lydia Lehman, Elizabeth Reinhard, Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, Thomas Witherspoon, Mrs. Hammond, Mr. Richie. The first pastor was Reverend McKesson and he has been followed by Revs. Jesse Lehman, J. P. Ash, E. H. Kring, J. A. Adams, J. W. Carter, G. B. Bancroft and A. E. Bashford. The first church was constructed on a leased lot at Twenty-ninth and Clinton streets in 1895. This was a small structure built of lumber covered with tar paper and was called by many the "tar paper shanty". In 1896 it was raised two feet, plastered and shingled. In 1898 the church was moved to Twenty-ninth and Holdrege streets, where two lots had been purchased. The next year it was cut into two parts and these used as wings for the additional part built. In 1914 the old church was sold and moved away and a new structure put up. The Salem Church has a membership of 110.

The German Evangelical St. John Church of Lincoln was organized April 7, 1907, by Rev. George Neumann with sixty-seven charter members. The first pastor was Rev. J. Heinrich and he was followed by the present incumbent, Rev. David Maul. The church building in use at present was completed May 12, 1907. There are about four hundred and seven members in the society.

The Burnham Evangelical Church, located at Burnham, was organized in the year 1908, and now has a membership of thirty. Rev. William P. Bancroft is the pastor of the church.

The Calvary Church of the Evangelical Association, 1601 South Tenth Street, was organized in 1889. The church now has a membership of something over fifty. Rev. T. A. Marks is the pastor.

The Emmanuel United Evangelical at Forty-second and N streets was organized in 1910.

The United Evangelical Church at 837 North Thirty-third was organized July 25, 1915. There is a membership of forty, and Rev. M. T. Maze is the pastor.

St. Paul's German Evangelical Church in Lincoln, Synod of North America, was organized in 1873. The membership at present is 370 and the pastor is Rev. Adolph Matzner.

#### BAPTIST CHURCHES

The First Baptist Church of Lincoln was organized August 22, 1869, with fourteen members. The first officers were: R. R. Tingley, deacon; L. H. Potter, clerk; R. R. Tingley, S. W. Bent and J. P. Lantz, trustees.

The first pastor of the church was Rev. O. T. Conger, June, 1870-January, 1875. Following him have been these pastors: Rev. S. M. Cramblet, October,

1875-October, 1877; Rev. W. Sanford Gee, May, 1878-September, 1882; Rev. C. T. Chaffee, January, 1882-October, 1883; Rev. C. C. Pierce, May, 1884-September, 1886; Rev. O. A. Williams, November, 1886-September, 1894; Rev. H. O. Rowlands, November, 1894-June, 1903; Rev. S. Z. Batten, October, 1903-June 15, 1910; Rev. Howard R. Chapman, September, 1910.

Very shortly after the organization of the church subscriptions were taken for the construction of a meeting house. This was completed and dedicated January 22, 1871. The first parsonage was built in 1875. About 1885 a movement was begun to raise a larger subscription with which to build an adequate church for the needs of the growing membership. This movement was successful and the present building was constructed and dedicated June 17, 1888. The old church property had been sold the year previous. The first building was on the corner of Eleventh and L streets, but for the accommodation of the new building three lots on the corner of Fourteenth and K streets were purchased. The present parsonage was erected in the same year. There are about six hundred members active now in the First Baptist Church.

The East Lincoln Baptist Church began as a mission Sunday School, under the care of the First Church. On January 31, 1890, the mission was organized into a church society and the first house of worship constructed at Twenty-sixth and Vine streets. This building is now used as a dwelling. The new church was constructed in 1907. At the beginning there were ninety members, but of these charter members only the following are now active in the church: Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Cushman, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cushman, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Mickel, C. B. Auman, Mrs. Lena C. Buchtel and Mrs. Robert Beck. On January 1, 1916, a portion of this congregation left the church and formed a new organization to be known as the Calvary Baptist Church.

The Rush Memorial Baptist Church was started as a mission Sunday School several years ago by Reverend Denton and other members of the East Lincoln Baptist Church. The church is not yet formally organized, but will be in a few months. The name is given in honor of Frank Rush, a former Lincoln man, lost in the Philippines during the Spanish-American war, and who left a sum of money to be used in church work. The church building was moved in from Emerald three years ago. Rev. R. N. Cloud, a former assistant pastor at the East Lincoln Church, supplied the field for about six months. Rev. E. M. Owings came the first of February, 1915. There are about sixty patrons of this society. The Sunday School has a membership of 125.

Mount Zion Baptist Church, colored, at 1203 F Street, was organized in 1900 and has a membership of 124. Rev. Bluford Hillman is the pastor.

#### BRETHREN CHURCH

The first church of the Brethren organized in Lancaster County had its beginning about 1883; the church was first organized in the City of Lincoln in 1893. The first trustees of the society were: J. S. Gable, W. A. Kirschner and John Brumbaugh. The name of the first pastor of the church is not obtainable with certainty, but among the very first was G. Courer, followed by Owen Peters, J. L. Snaveley, Jesse Y. Heckler, Samuel Forney, A. D. Sollenberger, George Lauver, S. C. Miller, L. D. Bosserman, S. E. Thompson and J. Edwin Jarboe.

The first house of worship was constructed in 1901 at the corner of Twenty-second and Q streets; this was demolished and replaced with a brick structure in 1909. There are now sixty members of the church active.

#### UNITED BRETHREN

The Caldwell Memorial United Brethren Church was organized in 1885 at Wood Street between Ninth and Tenth by F. W. Scott. Among the charter members of the society were the following: Levi Wilcox and wife, John Shoemaker and parents, Roy Brown and wife, James Massey and wife, William McClain and wife, William Mahan and wife, and James Estes. The first pastor of the church was F. W. Scott. It is not known who his immediate successor was, but after him served Revs. J. M. Duffield, Louis Piper, H. E. Meyers, W. R. Hodges, F. W. Jones, W. M. Buswell, J. T. Merrill, W. O. Jones and H. H. Heberly. The first church building was constructed at Eleventh and B streets in 1886; the next building was erected at Twenty-eighth and E streets in 1890; in 1900 a location was secured at Eighteenth and M streets and a chapel erected the same year. The main auditorium was built in 1904. The present membership of this church is 275. The church was named in memory of W. P. Caldwell, a pioneer minister in the United Brethren Church and who worked over the southeastern part of Nebraska. The Caldwell family donated \$500.00 toward the erection of the last building.

#### LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, with headquarters at Lamoni, Iowa, is represented by a small congregation in Lincoln. The church here was organized in 1910 and has a membership of seventy-five. It is located at 645 South Twenty-sixth Street. Rev. J. A. Dowker is the present pastor.

#### HEBREW CHURCHES

The first settler of the Hebrew faith arrived in Lincoln about 1879 and others followed very soon afterwards, but no attempt was made to form a synagogue until 1885. Services were held in private houses prior to this. Louis Poska was president of the first congregation and Robert Arenson, secretary. The name Tifereth Israel which was given means "Glory of Israel." The temple occupied quarters in a hall until October 18, 1903, when the unfinished church of St. Luke's congregation at Thirteenth and T streets was purchased. In 1903 another congregation under the name of Talmud Torah was formed, and was independent for seven years, then, in 1910 joined the Tifereth Israel. After the consolidation, a lot was purchased and the cornerstone of the new Temple laid November 3, 1912. The finished building was dedicated May 25, 1913. It is located at 344 South Eighteenth Street. Just prior to the erection of the Temple the congregation had been meeting at 1235 T Street.

The Congregation B'nai Jeshurun was incorporated October 5, 1884, at Lincoln by Moses Oppenheimer, Aaron Katzenstein, Isaac Friend and Leopold Barr.

Formerly the rabbis of Omaha officiated, consisting of Leo M. Franklin, Abe Simon and Frederick Colm. The first resident rabbi was Israel Mattuck, followed by Frederick Braun, G. Lowenstein and Jacob Singer. The first building was erected in 1893 at a cost of between \$7,000.00 and \$8,000.00. An addition was provided in 1907. The membership now comprises about seventy-five heads of families.

#### REFORMED CHURCHES

Rev. E. E. Erb, Mrs. Erb, Miss Jennie Erb, John Erb, Sarah Karcher, John Endres, Phoebe Martin and J. Sonmedeker met at the Young Men's Christian Association on January 20, 1889, and formed an organization, Faith Reformed Church. At the request of this body the board of home missions sent the Rev. T. F. Stauffer, who held the first services on January 12, 1890, at the Young Men's Christian Association Hall. Reverend Stauffer served until April, 1898, and was succeeded by Rev. F. H. Fisher who remained until November, 1902, the Rev. P. M. Orr took charge and has continued until this time. The first building was erected at Twenty-third and Vine streets in August, 1891. The present building was purchased from the St. Mark's Lutheran Church in April, 1898. With the purchase of this building came the change of name from Faith to St. Mark's Reformed Church. The present membership is 275.

The name Reformed is, in general, misunderstood by the people of Lincoln. It is the original reformation church of Switzerland, Germany and Holland. Ulrich Zwingli, the founder, began preaching the doctrines of the Reformation just one year before Martin Luther nailed his famous thesis on the door of the Wittenberg Church. The Reformed Church is Presbyterian in form of government and is Calvinistic in theology, and is the mother of all the Presbyterian bodies of the present day.

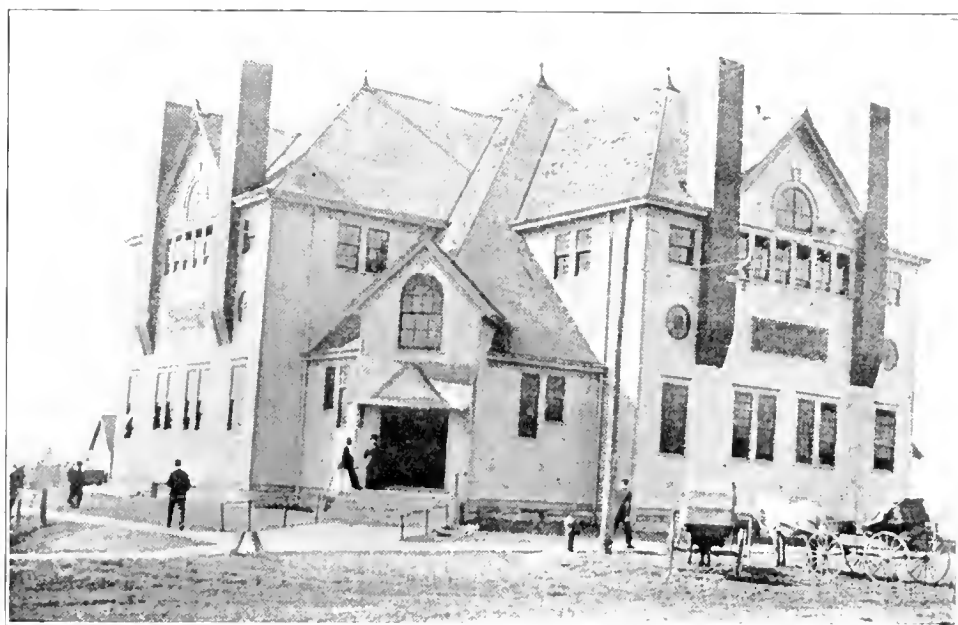
The German Reformed Emanuel Church in Lincoln was organized October 23, 1891, at the house of John Urbach. There were thirteen families in the first congregation. The society was formed by Reverends Erb and Arnold. There have been three regular pastors, namely: August Kanne, Edward Stübi and John Arnold. The old church building was bought from the Presbyterians and the new structure was put up in 1906. The present membership is 460.

#### NAZARENE CHURCH

The First Pentacostal Church of the Nazarene in Lincoln, located at 1018 E Street, was organized July 21, 1913, at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall by Rev. A. S. Cochran, district superintendent. Rev. L. R. Hoff was the first pastor and was succeeded by Rev. Quillis A. Deck. The church building was bought from the United Evangelical Church. The present membership of this church is sixty-six.

#### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

The Lincoln Seventh Day Adventist Church was organized in 1885, by Rev. A. J. Cudney. Reverend Cudney was lost at sea in 1888 while en route as



SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, COLLEGE VIEW





missionary to Pitcairn Island in the Pacific. Following Reverend Cudney, the following have served as pastors of this church: O. W. Bent, Elmer Adams, R. W. Parmalee, C. A. Kite, F. R. Andrews, D. E. Hoffman, H. E. Lysinger and O. O. Bernstein. The church building was erected in 1900.

The seat of the Seventh Day Adventist faith in Lancaster County is at College View. The first record in the church book states that a meeting was called in Nicola's Hall in College View on May 27, 1891, for the purpose of considering the question of organizing a Seventh Day Adventist Church there. The meeting was presided over by Elder W. B. White, president of the Nebraska Conference. G. W. Boughton was appointed secretary. A. R. Henry, J. P. Gardner, Noah Hodges and D. R. Quinn were appointed a committee to care for memberships and to manage preliminary business. Mrs. F. H. Sisley and Ella Diamond were added to the committee later. Among the first members of this church may be mentioned: Noah Hodges, A. B. Hodges, Charles Hodges, C. T. Lewis, Martha Lewis, Lectoy Lewis, P. M. Buchanan, E. J. Buchanan, G. Boughton, Ruth Boughton, B. O. Carr, Mary A. Carr, W. C. Sisley, F. H. Sisley, Isaac Wiley, Jeanett Wiley, J. W. Rogers, Lou A. Rogers, David Quinn, Mary Quinn, Mary Nicola, W. B. White, Nettie White, D. Nettleton, Mrs. Nettleton, M. W. Earl, Kate Earl, A. E. Marvin, P. A. Marvin, Linnie Chapman, Hannah Thayer, J. A. Wells, Sallie Wells, Lucy P. Wells, J. W. and Clara Boynton, Bertha Bartholomew, Z. Nicola, Thadeus Smith, Carrie Smith, Jennie Soucey, Charles Means, Fred Wiley, Nora Titus, W. F. Hamilton, Alice Sisley, Louella Wilson, G. Wells, C. C. Lewis, M. J. Pierce, E. J. Randall, Moses and Sarah Herrick, James W. Laughhead, J. B. Stillwell, William Klindt, Francis and Martha Soucey, Josie O'Neil, Peter Lenker, Henry W. Keck, A. M. Allee, Charles E. Woodbury, James S. Houseman. Upon an old leaf in the record book there is recorded the fact that the first meeting was held in a barn on the spot of the present Enos barn. The present large frame church building was dedicated September 23, 1894.

The German Seventh Day Adventist Church at College View was organized in 1907 and has a membership of seventy-two. The Swedish Seventh Day Adventist Church, also at College View, was organized in 1913 and has a membership of forty. Both of these societies worship in the main church building.

#### UNION CHURCH

The Union Church at College View was organized for the purpose of providing religious accommodations for the residents not members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The church was organized May 4, 1911, by Frank Mills. A few months previous he had started a Sunday School mission of Methodist denomination and immediately several other churches wished to be represented in the field. The Methodist people then disbanded and a few months later Mills drew up a copy of a brief religious doctrine. The \$7,000.00 brick church building for the use of this society was completed in April, 1912, and was dedicated May 5, 1912.

#### EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

The first services of the Episcopal Church were held in Lincoln in May, 1868, by Rev. R. W. Oliver, D. D. On the 17th of November of the same year

Rev. George C. Betts of Omaha held the second service, and of those who were present only one was a member of the church. Subsequently Rt. Rev. R. H. Clarkson, D. D., bishop of the diocese, visited the city and preached. About this time Rev. William C. Bolmar was appointed missionary in charge. In January, 1869, a movement was started toward the organization of a parish. A meeting was held, at which were present: Michael Rudolph, A. F. Harvey, John Morris, J. J. Jones, H. S. Jennings, E. Godsall, A. C. Rudolph, John G. Morris, R. P. Cady, J. C. Hire, William C. Heddleson, S. L. Culver and J. S. Moots, who signed a petition which was sent to the bishop, asking for permission to organize a parish under the title of The Church of the Holy Trinity. The bishop gave his consent and on May 10th of the same year the parish organization was effected. A vestry was elected, composed of: Michael Rudolph, A. F. Harvey, warders; J. J. Jones, A. C. Rudolph, H. J. Walsh, Dr. L. H. Robbins and J. M. Bradford. The parish was admitted into the union with the council of the diocese in September of the same year. The congregation held its meetings at various places in Lincoln until 1870. Upon the coming of Rev. Samuel Goodale in May of that year steps were taken for the erection of a house of worship. Accordingly a \$4,000.00 building was put at the corner of J and Twelfth streets, on lots belonging to the parish. It was consecrated March 5, 1781. In 1884 the need was felt for a larger church house and Mr. Guy A. Brown issued a small parish paper to awaken interest in the same. Plans were made for the new church and on June 14, 1888, the cornerstone of the \$40,000.00 church was laid with proper ceremonies. In the spring of 1888 the old church was moved to a lot on Twelfth Street, between U and V, and another congregation was organized under the ministry of Rev. R. L. Stevens and called the Church of the Holy Comforter. In 1889 the Holy Trinity Chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood came into possession of the house of worship which had been used by the Baptists and moved it to a lot on the corner of Eighth and Washington streets. Regular services were for a time held here. These two latter organizations are not active at the present time. The Trinity church has a membership of 650.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Lincoln was started as a parochial mission about fifteen years ago by Rev. Percy Silver. The first regular pastor for this society was Rev. Robert Turner and he was followed by Revs. F. J. Smith, Giebert, George Miller, Benjamin J. Fitz, Ottman, F. A. Saylor, S. H. Brook and Charles R. Tyner. The first services were held in a store building on North Tenth Street near R; then the congregation moved to Twelfth and T, then to Thirteenth and R streets. There are at present about ninety members.

After the abandonment of Nebraska College, in 1889, an effort was made to provide facilities for a boys' school of the Episcopal Church. A site was secured and a building erected thereon. At first the purpose was to place the authority of the school in the government of the diocese, but this was found to be impracticable. Accordingly the management of the school was placed in the hands of a board of trustees with the bishop as visitor. Under the name of the Worthington Military Academy the school was opened on September 15, 1892, with an attendance of thirty-eight. The school buildings were destroyed by fire on June 1, 1898 and the school abandoned. The military academy stood on the heights of Grand View, three miles north of Lincoln. The building was owned by the Grand View

Building Association. The school was under the patronage of the Episcopal Church, but had no official connection with that church denomination.

#### THE UNITARIAN CHURCH

The All Souls Church of Lincoln was organized May 27, 1868, and was affiliated with the American Unitarian Association. The membership was composed mostly of the former members of the Lincoln Universalist Church and the property of the latter society was taken over by the Unitarians in December of the year of organization. There were ninety-eight charter members of the All Souls Church, the following of whom are still active: H. W. Brown, F. M. Fling, L. Margaret Pryse, Inez C. Philbrick, W. J. Cooper, Annette E. Brackett, Malah B. Philbrick, I. H. Hatfield, Maude R. Hatfield, Emma J. Bond, Laurence Fossler, Julia Boehme, Sophie Mitchell, A. R. Mitchell, T. B. Harris, Mrs. T. B. Harris, Annie W. Aitken, Mrs. M. W. Ensign, Eliza A. Cooper, N. E. Philbrick, Lillian Hall, Nannie Davey, R. B. Davey, W. H. Hunt, Libbie Hunt, O. E. Goodell, M. W. Ensign, F. A. Korsmeyer, Laura Korsmeyer, Grace Aitken, Gertrude Aitken, F. W. Hellwig, Jean A. Hellwig, Ada B. Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Lewis, Stephen S. England, Flora Bullock, Lina F. Sawyer, W. E. Hardy, Gertrude L. Hardy, Samuel J. Tuttle, May Gund, Mrs. Henry Gund, Sarah Rands, Lulu M. Summers, Helen Erisman, Anna B. Grisinger, Lillian E. Ferris, Bertie Ferris, Mrs. P. M. Vaughan, Mrs. Lottie M. Faxon, Mrs. M. E. Cramphin and Mrs. M. M. Stull. The first officers of the Unitarian Church were: Fred Morrow Fling, president; I. H. Hatfield, secretary; H. W. Brown, treasurer; W. J. Cooper, Mrs. F. D. McClusky and S. L. Geisthardt, trustees. The present membership is about one hundred and sixty-five. The first pastor of the Unitarian Church was Rev. J. L. Marsh, who served until 1908, then removing to Massachusetts, where he died in March, 1916. On September 1, 1908, Rev. Arthur L. Weatherly of Worcester, Massachusetts took charge of the church and has served continually until this time. Reverend Weatherly was a member of the peace party conducted by Henry Ford of Detroit, in the 1915 pilgrimage to Europe for the purpose of working for peace among the warring nations.

#### CATHOLIC CHURCHES

The first Catholic services in the City of Lincoln were held in 1867 at the home of John Daly, a blacksmith, on the present site of the Missouri Pacific Depot. Rev. Emmanuel Hartig held the services. Governor Butler donated to the church the three lots at the corner of Thirteenth and M streets and upon this land a frame church building was constructed, in which Father Hartig held services until August, 1868. He attended here once every month. He was then succeeded by Father Pirmine Kounley, O. S. B., who also came once every month until February, 1869, and was followed by Rev. Michael Hofmayr, O. S. B. In September, 1869, the latter became the first resident pastor of Lincoln. In 1871 Rev. William Kelly took charge of the Lincoln parish and in May, 1874, came Rev. John Curtis. In 1879 Rev. C. J. Quinn was rector in this city and during his pastorate the St. Theresa's Catholic Church was erected. He was succeeded in 1880 by Rev. M. A. Kennedy. Following Reverend Kennedy the rectors of the

cathedral have been Reverends Dunphy, Walsh, Loughran, Fitzgerald, Nugent, Roche, Nugent, Bradley, Reade, Shine and Bradley.

The part of the State of Nebraska lying south of the Platte River, in area about 23,844 square miles, was made into the Lincoln Diocese on August 2, 1887. This was made necessary by the growth of the Catholic Church in the South Platte territory. Rt. Rev. Thomas Bonacum, D. D. was the first bishop appointed to this diocese, taking possession of his see December 21, 1887. He remained bishop until his death on February 4, 1911. He was succeeded by the Rt. Rev. John H. Tihen, who is now the bishop of the Lincoln Diocese.

In 1888 Bishop Bonacum constructed an addition to the pro-cathedral, organized a German Catholic congregation and erected the St. Francis De Sales Church at 530 South Eighteenth Street for them, and erected St. Theresa's High School. The Franciscan Sisters secured the Buckstaff residence and transformed it into a hospital. In 1893 the bishop's residence upon the outskirts of Lincoln was constructed and an orphanage built in close proximity. In 1893 the Franciscan fathers took charge of the St. Francis De Sales Church. They also opened a parochial school. In 1893 also a church was started for the use of the Catholics of Bohemian nationality and called St. John Nepomuc's Church. A building was erected at Seventh and F streets and was attended from Plattsmouth. It is now attended by Father P. S. McShane of St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

In March, 1904, the Church of Christ property at the corner of Fourteenth and K streets was purchased by the Catholics for \$14,000.00. This edifice had originally been used by the Disciples Church. The cornerstone of the building was laid July 3, 1888, but was not finished and dedicated until August 25, 1899. The congregation later met with reverses and it reverted to the mortgage holders. After the Catholics purchased the building plans were drawn for the remodeling of the structure so as to fit the needs of a cathedral. The work was hardly under way when, on August 28, 1906, it was destroyed by fire. The rebuilding was immediately begun, however, and on December 8, 1911, the church was dedicated. It is known as the St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

The Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus, from Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania, came to Lincoln in June, 1883, and established an academy for young ladies. They discontinued their work in Lincoln several years ago and left. At one time the Ursuline Sisters from Peoria, Illinois, also conducted a school here twenty years ago, but are not active now. In 1889 the Franciscan Sisters from Lafayette, Indiana, took charge of St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lincoln and now have charge of the orphanage. In 1890 the Sisters of Charity from Dubuque, Iowa, took charge of St. Theresa's School and have remained. Recently the Catholics of Lincoln have purchased fifteen lots west of the new Lincoln high school building, one block on J Street, and intend to erect a school of magnificent proportions.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Havelock was started as a mission of the Franciscan Order of Lincoln. A handsome church building was constructed in 1908 and, including a frame parsonage, is valued at \$30,000.00. Rev. D. B. O'Connor is the pastor of this church which includes about four hundred and fifty members. The mission was established in 1893.

## CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

On January 24, 1869, D. R. Dungan, chaplain of the Legislature, held services in Lincoln in the interests of the Christian denomination. He found here about twenty-seven persons who had formerly been members of the Christian Church and on the 24th of January of that year they were legally organized. Michael Combs and Joseph Robinson were the first elders of the society and G. W. Aitken and J. H. Hawkins were the first deacons. Lots were donated by the state on condition that a house of worship be erected thereon. J. M. Yearnshaw settled in Lincoln in May and many of the early meetings were held in his home. On September 5, 1869, the meetings were removed from his residence to the old capitol building and later to the school house where they continued to worship until July 3, 1870, when they dedicated a church building on the northeast corner of Tenth and K streets. This building cost them \$2,300.00 and was the home of the society for nineteen years.

On September 13, 1870, the state missionary convention was held in Lincoln for the first time and there were present fifty delegates and twenty-five pastors. On October 23, 1870, J. M. Yearnshaw was elected the first regular pastor of the First Church in Lincoln. On April 23, 1871, the first Sunday School was organized with J. Z. Briscoe as superintendent. By the year 1887 the membership had increased to such an extent that a new building was thought advisable. The result was the purchase of three lots on the corner of Fourteenth and K streets and the construction of a church building which was dedicated upon the last Lord's Day in August, 1889. In May, 1897, the society was compelled to give up this building for financial reasons, and it was later bought by the Catholics and converted into the cathedral. For several years after this the Christian Church was without a building, but continued to meet downtown. In the spring of 1901 the church bought lots on the corner of Fourteenth and M streets for \$4,000.00 and during the following autumn erected on the back of these lots a little chapel in which they worshiped until November, 1907. Then they moved into the Lyric Theater and still later to the Auditorium. They held services in this way until the dedication of their new church building on May 16, 1909. Ground had been broken for this building on June 11, 1908, and the cornerstone laid September 16, 1908. The cost of the church was \$30,472.00. On March 23, 1916 a modern pipe organ, \$4,000.00, was added to the equipment of the society. Following is a list of the pastors who have served the Church of Christ in Lincoln: Revs. J. M. Yearnshaw, D. R. Dungan, J. B. Johnson, J. M. Williams, B. F. Bush, Robert E. Schwartz, C. L. Crowthers, R. H. Ingram, C. B. Newnan, J. J. Morgan, H. J. Kirschstein, T. J. Thompson, N. S. Haynes and H. H. Harmon. Julia Marsh, the first person baptized (in Salt Creek) is still living in the city of Lincoln.

The East Lincoln Christian Church of Lincoln was founded in 1890 with a membership of forty. It was in the month of April of that year that the forty members of the First Church asked for letters of dismissal that they might enter a field almost barren in religious activities. Prior to this a Sunday School had been established in the east section by the people of the Christian Church, but this was abandoned owing to the impossibility of finding suitable quarters. In 1890 a lot was purchased, cornering on Twenty-seventh and Y streets, and a small

chapel was erected. This chapel was dedicated in 1890 with R. W. Abberly as pastor. He remained in charge until 1895, when he was relieved by Rev. J. W. Hilton, the present pastor. In May, 1913, ground was broken for the new building and the cornerstone laid on June 29, 1913. The cost was \$30,000.00. The membership of the East Lincoln Church is 325.

There were fifty-four charter members of the Tabernacle Christian Church of Lincoln, most of whom left the First Church in full sympathy with the members of the latter society. The First Church had entertained the idea of a congregation in that part of Lincoln since October 7, 1903, at which time a committee was appointed, it being the annual meeting, to look into the matter. In 1905 the location at Seventeenth and South streets was thought most desirable. But, owing to the fact that the next few years were years of building at Bethany, Haverlock and Lincoln, action on the construction of a church was deferred. In May, 1912, the city missions committee of the joint board, after several conferences with South Lincoln residents, arranged for a meeting of members in South Lincoln at the home of E. J. Sias, when a committee was appointed. Reverend Sias volunteered a year's service as pastor of the church. A building was raised on June 20th and dedicated four days later. The membership is 260 and the pastor at present is Rev. C. W. McCord.

The First Christian Church of Havelock was organized in 1906 and the church building constructed shortly afterward. The society now has a membership of 275, and is in charge of Rev. W. E. Wessley.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

The following paragraphs in regard to the early history of the First Congregational Church of Lincoln is re-quoted from the Morton History of Nebraska; it is condensed from a historical account given at the fortieth anniversary by Rev. Lewis Gregory.

"The early days of this church have special interest because its organization antedates both the city and the state. Its history carries us back to pioneer times. The first white settler of the county is said to have settled on the banks of Salt Creek on what is now Centerville, in June, 1856. At this time the country had not been surveyed. During the next five years a few families moved in here and there on inviting spots near Waverly and Yankee Hill. They led a precarious existence, disputing with the Indians the right of possession.

"In 1862 the homestead law was passed. Among the first settlers under it was John S. Gregory, Sr., the first deacon of this church. His first stop was at a roofless and floorless log cabin on the margin of the salt basin. The cabin had been erected by J. Sterling Morton as a preemption claim, but was desolate and deserted. Mr. Gregory built a dugout in which he lived. He furnished salt to the Rocky Mountain freighters at two or three cents a pound. The next year Lancaster County was organized. Mr. Gregory was made chairman of the board of county commissioners. He also succeeded in having a postoffice established named Gregory Basin, of which he was appointed postmaster at a yearly salary of \$3, with an extra \$12 for bringing the mail from Saltillo, then in Clay County.

"In 1864 J. M. Young, with ten or a dozen others, staked out a town of eighty acres where Lincoln now stands. They called it Lancaster. The settlement was

planned as a church colony of the Protestant Methodist Church. From the proceeds of a sale of lots a building was erected, known as Lancaster Seminary, and also as a place for Sunday meetings, until a stone church was afterwards erected on the corner of K and Twelfth streets. To this building Mr. Gregory personally contributed \$8,000.00. In spite of the heroism and sacrifice of the members, this church did not flourish and it passed away with its first families twenty years ago.

"From the beginning Mr. Gregory and a few neighbors who were Congregationally inclined held services among themselves, ministered to occasionally by the pastor at Greenwood. Finally, on August 19, 1866, a little church of six members was organized, when, as the first page of the church record states, there were but seven buildings in the town, viz., the seminary, the store, the blacksmith shop and four dwellings. The church agreed to raise \$100.00 a year for its minister, a pledge which the record at the close of the year proudly states was more than fulfilled. During this year, in March, 1867, Nebraska was proclaimed a state. In July the capital was located on paper and the bare prairie. In November of this same year Rev. Charles Little, having been chosen pastor of the Congregational Church, set about securing for it a building. There were then, he says, not over three hundred people in the city.

The first church building was erected in 1868 and finished and furnished in 1869—simple but substantial and capable of seating 125 people. It cost \$2,778.86. This was the first permanent building dedicated to the worship of God in our city. Following the completion of the building in 1869 the church was only able to pledge \$201 for the pastor's salary, of which only \$132 had been raised at the close of the year. The remaining meager support was contributed by the Congregational Home Missionary Society. Such a condition of things makes short pastorates. The minister, having exhausted his own resources and those of his friends, must leave. Mr. Little resigned in 1870, the church then having thirty-four members.

"Rev. L. B. Fifield, a man of scholarly tastes and well educated, took up the work and helped to bear its burdens for two years more, adding twenty-three to its membership, but owing to deaths and removals he left it in numbers the same as he found it.

"His successor, Rev. S. R. Dimmock, was a man of unusual oratorical gifts. The church building was enlarged and fifty were added to the membership during Mr. Dimmock's pastorate. Yet there was the constant going and coming characteristic of a western town; so when, after two years and a half of service, the minister was compelled to resign on account of ill health, there were but fifty-four names on the roll, of whom only forty were resident, while on the other side was a debt of \$2,000.00."

The author of the above paragraphs became pastor of the church in October, 1875, and was pastor for twenty-two years, the membership at the close of his services being 472. During his pastorate a new church building was constructed, being dedicated January 9, 1887.

The first members of the society were: F. A. Bidwell, John S. Gregory, Mrs. Welthy P. Gregory, Mary E. Gregory, Philester Jessup and Mrs. Ann M. Langdon. Rev. E. C. Taylor was the first pastor of the church, from its organization until October, 1867 and he was followed by Revs. Charles Little,

L. B. Fifield, S. R. Dimmock, Lewis Gregory, W. H. Manss, John E. Tuttle and R. A. Waite. The church property is valued at about \$60,000.00. The membership is 600.

The present Plymouth Congregational Church had its inception in 1887. The idea of a branch church more conveniently located for the people of the south of Lincoln was originated by Rev. Lewis Gregory of the First Church. In the fall of the year 1887 thirty-six active members of the First Church withdrew and with eight others became the first congregation of the church at Seventeenth and A streets. A rough building, or tabernacle as it was called, was erected for \$180.00, with eaves only five feet from the ground and a lean-to vestibule. There was no ceiling; a rotund drum-stove supplied heat; and behind the pulpit was the motto "Welcome." The original members were: Rev. E. S. Ralston, J. A. Lippincott, Mrs. J. A. Lippincott, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Mosher, Mrs. B. P. Cook, Miss Carol Churchill, T. C. Wright, Mrs. T. C. Wright, Mrs. J. L. Thompson, Miss Phoebe Mosher, James Rivett, Mrs. James Rivett, Mrs. Lucy Pierce, Mrs. W. T. Abbott, Mrs. T. E. Hardenbergh, Mrs. L. M. Fowler, Miss Alice Martin, Mrs. H. M. Chapin, Leonard Chapin, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Newton King, Mrs. Z. Townsend, Mrs. H. L. Abbott, Miss Gertrude Abbott, Edwin Sharp, Mrs. Edwin Sharp, James Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wallingford, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hackney, Mrs. L. H. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Lane, W. A. Selleck, Mrs. Nellie Horton Selleck, John B. Horton, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Crooks and Miss Jessie Love.

The church was originally known as the Second Congregational Church, but at the first business meeting of 1888 the name was changed to Plymouth. The church has had only five pastors during the whole time of its existence. Rev. Edward S. Ralston was the first pastor, serving from May, 1888, until compelled to give up the work on account of ill health. Rev. Norman Plass succeeded him, then Rev. John Doane. In 1901 Rev. H. C. Hamlin occupied the pulpit and in 1903 Rev. C. H. Rogers came and is still here. At a meeting held in the old tabernacle on September 14, 1887, plans were made for the erection of the second church building and in the following year the new building was completed, but placed the society under a heavy indebtedness which took years to settle. This property was valued at \$15,000.00. The new Plymouth house of worship was first talked of in January, 1914. At that time the congregation voted to begin the erection of a new building as soon as 80 per cent of the money necessary for its completion was raised. A canvass for subscriptions resulted in securing over twenty-seven thousand dollars and a building committee was instructed to proceed with the building at an approximate cost of thirty-four thousand dollars. The contract was let January 8, 1915, the cornerstone laid May 9, 1915, and the dedication December 12, 1915. The church and furnishings complete cost \$36,000.00. The present membership is 425.

The Vine Congregational Church at Twenty-fifth and S streets was organized June 8, 1890, by Rev. Harmon Bross, D. D. and Rev. Lewis Gregory, the latter pastor of the First Church. Rev. Henry S. Wannamaker was the first pastor, from 1890 to 1893, and was succeeded by Rev. A. F. Newell, 1893-99. Since September, 1899, Rev. M. A. Bullock has been the pastor of the Vine Church. The first church building was constructed in the year of organization and was remodeled under Newell's pastorate. The present new church was erected in



1906-7. The membership is 375. During the year 1915 a pipe organ was installed in the church.

The First German Congregational Church was organized January 12, 1889, by Rev. Adam Traut, a student of the Chicago Theological Seminary. There were sixteen members at this time, six of whom live in the city now and one of whom is active in the church. The pastors who have filled the pulpit of the German Church are: Revs. John Lich, 1889-98; E. E. Osthoff, 1898-1900; G. L. Henkelmann, 1900-2; John Lich, 1902-6; B. R. Bauman, 1907-10; G. L. Henkelmann, 1910-. The church building was erected in 1888 at a cost of \$2,000.00. The membership is 130.

The German Salem Congregational Church was organized in 1902 by Reverend Schwab and the first regular pastor was Rev. Andrew Suffa. Following him have been Revs. D. G. Schurr, F. Von Brauchitsch and R. E. Herholz. The first house of worship was built in 1902. The membership of the Salem congregation is now 250.

The German Congregational Eben-Ezer Church at 1018 E Street was organized in 1915 and has a membership of 100. The pastor is Rev. J. F. Grove.

The German Congregational Zion Church, an outgrowth of the First German Congregational Church, was organized in 1900 and now has a membership of 400. Rev. C. H. Graf is the pastor.

The Swedish Emanuel Congregational Church at 2011 G Street was organized in 1895, has a membership of eighty-five, and is in the charge of Rev. Samuel Hogander. This was the first Swedish Congregational Church in the state.

The First Congregational Church of Havelock was organized in 1892 and a frame building constructed the same year. This house of worship was remodeled in 1914. Rev. H. M. Skeels has been the pastor for six years and is to be succeeded by Rev. David Tudor this year. The membership is 101 and the property is valued at \$6,000.00.

#### UNIVERSALIST

The First Universalist Society of Lincoln, which has been succeeded by the All Souls Church, Unitarian, was organized at the residence of J. D. Monell on September 1, 1870, with W. W. Holmes, S. J. Tuttle, J. N. Parker, Mrs. Sarah Parker, Mrs. Julia Brown, Mrs. Laura B. Pound and Mrs. Mary Monell as charter members. Property on the corner of Twelfth and H streets was granted to them by the Legislature. Pending the erection of a building services were held occasionally in the senate chamber in the old capitol. Rev. James Gerton was the first regular pastor of the church in 1871. The cornerstone of the chapel was laid in October, 1871, and on June 23, 1872, the structure was dedicated.

#### AN EARLY PASTOR'S STORY

Rev. M. F. Platt was an early missionary in Iowa and Nebraska, working under the direction of the American Home Missionary Society. In a letter written by him in 1886 he had the following to say about the first religious services and organization of the first Sabbath school in Lancaster County:

"Doctor Hanly and myself went from where Ashland now is towards the

present site of Lincoln, but night overtook us and we camped on the banks of Stevens Creek, seven miles northeast of that place. This was Saturday night. We arose early Sunday morning and went up to our friend Langdon's. Desiring to hold Sabbath services, and having sent no appointment in advance, it was necessary to reach there soon enough to circulate the word. We took breakfast with Mr. Langdon's family. Mr. Langdon sent his oldest son across Oak Creek to notify the neighbors. It did not take long, as there were but two other families on the salt basin. Mr. Cox was the tony one, for he lived in a log house; of the others, one lived in a dugout and the other abode in a tent. We went over to Mr. Cox's at 10 o'clock A. M., held religious services, Doctor Hanly and myself both speaking, after which we organized a Sabbath school. This, so far as I know, was the first religious meeting held in what is now Lancaster County. At that and various other times I saw the wolves, deer and antelope, as well as the jack-rabbit, bounding over the prairie where Lincoln now is built."

Mrs. S. M. Melick, now living in Lincoln, is a daughter of the Langdon referred to in the above.

## CHAPTER XXIII

### THE BENCH AND BAR OF LANCASTER COUNTY

Note: On June 14, 1872, the Lancaster County Bar was organized. Prior to this time there had been several attorneys practicing in the county, but no effort had been made to organize a bar association. The lawyers of the period of 1868 were: S. B. Galey, Seth Robinson, S. B. Pound, Ezra Tullis, Major Strunk and J. E. Philpot. The first man admitted to the bar in the county was John S. Gregory, under Judge Dundy in 1866. He and Milton Langdon had practiced here as far back as 1864. By 1876 the Lancaster County Bar had increased in membership, the following then belonging: John H. Ames, George K. Amory, Newton C. Abbott, L. W. Billingsley, Carlos C. Burr, Erastus E. Brown, Lionel C. Burr, Guy A. Brown, Amasa Cobb, Paren England, Smith B. Galey, D. G. Hull, N. S. Harwood, Robert Knight, Walter J. Lamb, G. M. Lambertson, M. Montgomery, Robert E. Moore, T. M. Marquett, James E. Philpot, Rollo O. Phillips, A. C. Ricketts, Adolphus G. Scott, M. H. Sessions, Samuel J. Tuttle, Charles O. Whedon, Joseph R. Webster, Jeff D. Weston, Joseph Hunter and A. J. Sawyer.

The first term of the Territorial Court was held in the home of Jacob Dawson in November, 1864. Dawson's house was a double log cabin, located on West O Street, between Seventh and Eighth, on the south side. This was Dawson's first house; after the location of the capital he built a stone and wood house farther up town. The officiating judge at this first term of court was Elmer S. Dundy. Mr. Dawson acted as clerk and Judge Pottenger, of Plattsmouth, was appointed prosecuting attorney for the territory. T. M. Marquett, then of Plattsmouth, was present as an attorney. Milton Langdon and John S. Gregory were the local attorneys. The principal case of the term was that of Bird vs. Pemberton, the latter being indicted on the charge of "malicious assault with intent to kill." T. M. Marquett, for a fee of \$10, defended the man and managed to persuade Judge Dundy to quash the indictment. There was a term of court in Lancaster County in 1865 and probably one in 1866. The case of John S. Gregory and his Uncle Eaton of Plattsmouth was the most noted one of those days and at times grew very warm.

#### REMINISCENCES OF THE BENCH AND THE BAR

By Samuel J. Tuttle

On my arrival in Lincoln on March 29, 1869, I found the legal profession both in number and quality well represented, composed in the greater part of young men, well educated, ambitious, capable, and drawn hither by the promise of professional opportunity, incident to the location of the capital of the state.

The city was then a hamlet of a few hundred inhabitants. In the journey hither the white-covered wagon was seen on every hill top and in every valley, slowly wending its way towards the West. It had come from Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and possibly from Ohio. It was usually drawn by a span of strong horses, with a chicken coop fastened on the rear, and the family cow hitched thereto. Within was usually the young husband and wife with their small children and all the household belongings. At night it found a camping place beside some small stream, fringed with trees. One such scene typifies all: it was evening; the sun had set and its departing rays crimsoned the clouds resting upon the western horizon. The camping place was beside a small stream. The horses and the family cow were tethered near the white-covered wagon. The fair-haired wife and mother, over a fire kindled by dry sun-flower stalks, was cooking the evening meal. The husband, wearing the faded blue overcoat of the common soldier of the republic, was gathering other sun-flower stalks for the next morning. Two little children, well bundled up, were sitting upon a blanket spread upon the ground, and near them the faithful dog, with hind legs drawn up under his body, with fore legs outstretched and head resting between them, in the very attitude of extreme weariness and exhaustion. Aside from these and a solitary onlooker, not a living being, human or animal. The gently sloping hills stretched away into the distance, unmarked by dugout or sod house or other human habitation. Solitude dominated the scene.

At that time Col. James E. Philpot, the sole survivor, save only the writer, in point of active practice, stood easily at the head, vigilant, active, ambitious, and even yet, in his eightieth year, still active in the profession at his new home in Minatare. He is resourceful, with unflagging energy and oblivious of fear. He accompanied the commission that located the capital in 1867, spent the following autumn and winter in Iowa, and returned the following spring, permanently locating as a lawyer.

He was preceded by Stephen B. Pound, who had located here even before the establishment of the state capital, a graduate of Union College, New York, a student, a quiet, refined gentleman and an excellent lawyer. He practiced a few years and was elected probate judge, was a member of the constitutional convention of 1875, chosen judge of the District Court, re-elected twice, resigning shortly before the expiration of his third term to enter the practice, to the great loss of the administration of the law, and to himself as well. The judicial office was most suitable to his nature and learning. On an occasion after leaving the bench he told the writer that throughout his official career, no one—layman or lawyer—had ever even suggested to him anything savoring of judicial misconduct.

Another pioneer lawyer was Joseph H. Knox, a lawyer of much experience and ability. He had an infirmity—an addiction to strong drink. The writer, known as a very sober youth, was deputed to go with him to a Fourth of July celebration at Milford in 1869, to care for him, that when he should appear before the audience he would be presentable. That duty was performed successfully. In a grove on the bank of Blue River, to an audience that had come from the dugouts and sod houses, in common farm wagons, on horseback and on foot, he delivered an excellent speech, with force and ability, to the great satisfaction of his audience. His duties performed the writer, on call, added his mite to the



LANCASTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LINCOLN



vocal entertainment, and thereafter introduced to sundry maidens, lost conception of the flight of time—regained consciousness later, with it the fact that the orator was nowhere to be seen. Search was instituted with success. He was found, his legs so feeble that he could not stand, his tongue so swollen that he could not talk, his brilliant mind nearly a blank. The words of Shakespeare, as uttered by Cassio, came with emphasis: "O that men should put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains." With much coaxing, lifting, copious libations of strong coffee, he was at a late hour gotten into a carriage, and sometime during the small hours of the morning, safely as could be done under the circumstances, delivered to his room in the Village of Lincoln. He lived and practiced his profession for a few years, suddenly dying from an affliction of the heart.

Another of the pioneers was Seth Robinson, the first attorney-general of the state, a classical scholar, the ablest lawyer this bar has seen. He was not an orator, but a deep thinker, a severe logician, with powers of analysis of the highest order, with great industry and energy. With his long auburn hair, blonde complexion, eyes very large and very blue, his pantaloons legs tucked into boots, he presented an unique and attractive appearance as he slouched through Lincoln's muddy streets. Afflicted here with a disease known as quincy, from which he had on several occasions barely escaped with his life, he removed to the more equable climate of San Francisco. In that metropolis he reached a high standing with a lucrative practice. But from the disease with which afflicted here, in a few years he died, not more than thirty-five. A most brilliant career was thus cut short. In the winter evenings of 1869 and 1870 he and the writer were wont to meet in a shabby room somewhere on the south side of O Street, between Tenth and Eleventh, and by the dim light of a kerosene lamp, renew our student life by reading some of the Greek classics, in which the former was very proficient.

Another of the pioneer lawyers was Walter J. Lamb. He possessed great energy, modesty, and charming personality, and with it all a pronounced optimism. At the time of the writer's arrival he was a justice of the peace. His office was located in a small one-story building on Tenth Street, opposite the south end of the First National Bank Building. The writer, having occasion shortly after his arrival to visit him, he was found in conversation with Doctor Fuller, rubbing his hands together as was his wont, and with a countenance beaming with satisfaction and contentment he was saying to the doctor, "I am doing exceedingly well. I am now making in my office here on an average of \$25 a month." He afterwards became the head of the firm of Lamb, Billingsley & Lambertson, a firm that stood decisively high and reaped an abundant harvest from the professional field. At that time McCandless & Boyd were a firm of lawyers, but the latter moved away in a few years and the former died as early as 1875.

Henry Jennings, who had been for some years a lawyer in one of the southeastern counties, removed to the new capital and resided here for a few years, practicing his profession. He then went to Cincinnati, Ohio, and subsequently to some town in Maryland, where he died.

Another lawyer at that time was Paren England, then engaged in the real estate business, subsequently in the mercantile, and later as a member of the law firm of Brown & England. He moved to Colorado later, and died in Kansas City.

Smith B. Galey, an early county clerk, practiced the profession very actively, but moved away from the county in about 1879.

The writer also remembers a lawyer by the name of Atkinson—not extremely prominent. He moved away at an early date. So far as recalled these mentioned include all the lawyers at the time of the writer's arrival in Lincoln, with the possible exception of John S. Gregory, who certainly had been before and was subsequently a lawyer.

Between 1869 and the adoption of the present constitution in November, 1875, the bar was increased by a number of new men, already prominent and who became prominent. In the summer of 1869 John H. Ames arrived from Western New York. In later years he reached a high place in the profession, possessing a legal mind of rare caliber, a wide reader and with conversational powers hardly excelled. His contributions to the press, on account of their worth, always received attention. At an early date he filled the office of justice of the peace.

Some time in the summer of 1870 Amasa Cobb joined the local bar. In the same summer the bar was increased in membership by Charles O. Whedon, who became and remained for forty years one of its strongest members. In the same summer came also A. C. Ricketts and C. M. Parker, who are still with us. In February, 1871, Nathan S. Harwood joined the bar. In this same year came also T. M. Marquett, for many years a settler at Plattsmouth. He appeared, in his early manhood, with flashing eye, hair and beard black as a raven's wing, active physically, alert mentally, resourceful, always ready to aid others, devoid of envy, brave and patriotic, one of the first to offer himself as a soldier in defense of his country, rejected because of a physical disability. Let an instance of his resourcefulness be cited. A man charged with murder of another in a room down near the Burlington station. A witness saw the accused immediately after the murder run from the building wherein this room was located. The identity of the accused with the man thus seen running was, of course, very material. Marquett found a man, bearing a close resemblance to the accused—in size, facial appearance, weight, and at the trial had him seated near himself. The witness swore to the identity of the accused with the man seen running from the place of the murder. On cross examination Marquett caused the man by his side to stand, and put this question, "Does the accused resemble the man whom you saw running from the room in question more closely than this man standing by my side?" The witness hesitated and finally answered that he could not be certain, without proof of identity. Of course, there could be no conviction, under the correct instruction of the court. The prisoner was acquitted. Counsel had done his duty—no more, no less. L. C. Burr, who is still with us, joined the bar about the same time as Marquett.



## CHAPTER XXIV

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

In this enlightened age of medical science one regards the early doctor as one who had little knowledge of the profession, one who applied the home remedies of calomel, castor oil and blue pill for every ill and who wielded the lancet with indiscrimination. However one may regard the early physician, there must be taken into consideration the times in which he worked, in other words, the knowledge of medicine and surgery which then existed in the world. Secondly, there were the physical conditions which he endured; thirdly, the diseases among the settlers were distinctive; and, lastly, the remedies and antidotes at the command of the doctor were scarce and, many times, not proper for the illness for which they were administered.

In the matter of medical knowledge in those early days, little or nothing was known compared with the present status of the science. In fact, medical knowledge has made more rapid strides in the last two decades than in the century before. In the early days of Nebraska and Lancaster County the doctors had strong faith in the use of the lancet, believing that by letting a copious amount of blood from the patient, the object of which was to destroy the tenement of the disease, a cure could be effected. Then there was the Spanish fly blister which was applied for all sorts of ills; there were blue pills and calomel which were the chief internal remedies. During the patient's convalescent period, if such a period were ever reached, gamboge, castor oil and senna were administered in generous portions in order to work out of the system the effects of the initial course of treatment.

It would be difficult to describe in limited space just how far the step has been taken from those early theories to those of the present day. A glance at the daily newspapers and magazines will prove by numerous instances the wonderful cures being accomplished, both in medicine and in surgery. Operations upon the heart, upon the brain, and upon the other delicate and vital organs of the body are becoming of daily occurrence, whereas a quarter century ago these practices would have been ridiculed. Nor does the modern doctor need the splendidly equipped operating room for this work. Weekly the news filters through the censors of some remarkable operation performed in the war zone of Europe; of how some daring work upon the part of an army surgeon has saved a soldier's life; perhaps, with the bare ground as the operating table and with a few simple instruments—and no anaesthetic.

The day of serums and antitoxins has arrived and the disease in many cases is throttled in its inception. The present day doctor recognizes the transcendency of nature, the greatest doctor of all, and he prefers to assist this great power rather than work independent of it.

The physical conditions the early doctor endured present another argument in his favor, if indeed, he needs to be justified. There were no roads, bridges, and, in many places, not even a marked path of travel. His trips were made on horseback or on foot, through intense blizzards, soaking rains, bitter cold, and in the face of the winds which swept across the prairie. Sleep was a luxury he obtained at odd times. In reward for his services he received a very meagre fee and in the majority of cases nothing, for the settlers as a class were poor. Then again he would receive his fee in grain or vegetables or whatever commodity the pioneer could most conveniently give him.

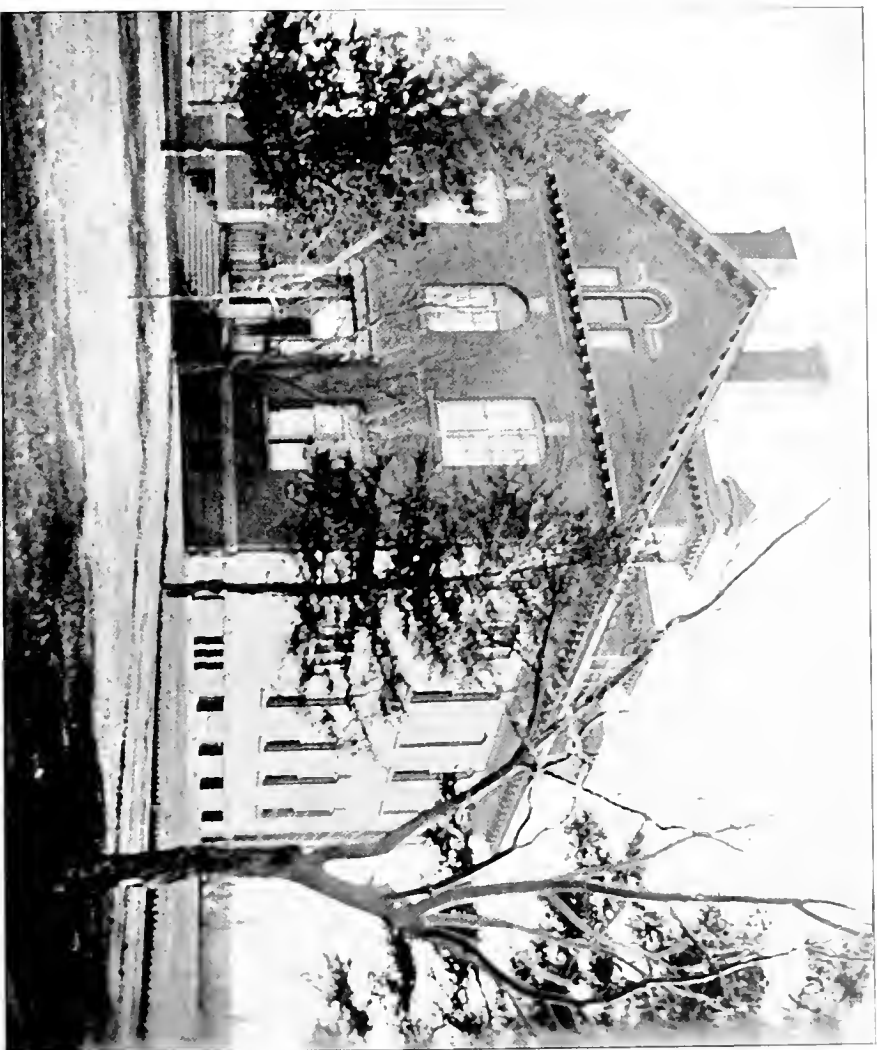
The diseases common to the first settlers were distinctive. The rough life and simple fare did not permit entrance to the numerous pains and ills attendant upon civilization and urban communities. Fevers and ague, with an occasional stomach ache, constituted the prominent ailments. Accidents required the use of wooden splints and bandages and, of course, the early physician required a certain knowledge of obstetrics, though the pioneer mother often endured the birth of her child without medical assistance. When sickness broke out in the family the doctor was called if within distance, but if not, the stock of home remedies was put to use. If it were nothing more than a cold, hot lard or pork fat and the internal use of quinine or onion juice completed the treatment. The use of a few herbs was also common. Sweet powders were stock antidotes.

Perhaps the first doctor to settle in Lancaster County was Dr. J. McKesson, a member of the Lancaster colony composed of Young, Dawson, Merrill, Giles, Harris, Lavender, Warnes, Humerick, Hudson, and a few others. He came in 1863.

In addition to Doctor McKesson there came in 1868 and 1869 Drs. H. D. Gilbert, George W. French and J. W. Strickland. The latter, an Ohioan, continued his practice until 1874, when he entered the flour and feed business at Raymond.

The organization of the Lancaster County Medical Society was perfected at Lincoln on the 24th day of May, 1869, the following named residents of the profession being present: D. W. Tingley, F. G. Fuller, J. M. Evans, H. D. Gilbert, L. H. Robbins, George W. French. Within the next year and a half the following became members: J. W. Strickland, John W. Northrup, George A. Goodrich, C. C. Radmore. The first death in the society was that of George A. Goodrich on July 16, 1870. At the time of the organization the official constitution and bylaws were adopted.

Doctor Robbins, among the above, became prominent in the county and state. He came to Lincoln April 21, 1869, from Illinois. Radmore served through the Civil war as an army surgeon and came to Lincoln in 1870. He was also a veteran of the Mexican war. James O. Carter was an early surgeon of Lincoln, coming in 1871, and for a number of years serving as penitentiary physician. He also served through the war as military surgeon. Dr. F. G. Fuller served in the hospital department of the Seventy-seventh Illinois Infantry during the war and came to Lincoln in 1868. He became quite prominent in medical circles and by the year 1882 was the oldest resident physician of Lincoln. He was a native of Illinois. William S. Latta, a former army surgeon, came to Lincoln in 1873 and was for several years president of the State Medical Association. He was a Pennsylvanian. A. R. Mitchell is another doctor who has gained prominence in medicine and surgery; he locted in Lincoln in 1879. Doctor Mitchell was born



ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL, LINCOLN



in Henry County, Ill. Dr. B. L. Paine came one year sooner and took up the practice; Doctor Paine is a member of the firm of Miller & Paine, department store.

The above mentioned physicians practically comprise the early doctors of Lincoln and Lancaster County. True, there were possibly others who lived here, but certainly none for a great length of time nor any who gained much prominence while here. When the growth of Lincoln was assured the field was considered an inviting one and many young doctors just out of college settled here, also quite a number of doctors who had practiced in other places. The medical profession has grown in Lancaster County and has maintained an equal record of merit with any other community in the country. Here in Lincoln are to be found specialists in every department of the science; here are to be found advantages of treatment, and excellently equipped hospitals, public and private, as good as may be obtained any place.

## CHAPTER XXV

### THE INCARCERATION OF THE LINCOLN CITY COUNCIL

By A. J. Sawyer

The first election under the new city charter creating cities of the first class, having a population of less than sixty thousand and more than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and which was approved March 25, 1887, occurred on the first Tuesday of April of that year.

Lincoln had within the last few years rapidly increased in population, wealth, and territory.

The time had arrived when Lincoln was rapidly becoming one of the principal cities of the West, but she was without paved streets, sanitary or surface sewerage, and without an adequate supply of water. She was about to enter upon an era of public improvements commensurate with her growth and population. The good name which the city had formerly possessed for law and order had materially suffered within the last year or two, and license and misrule were in the ascendant to such an extent that the leading citizens organized a Law and Order League for the purpose of aiding the authorities in restoring good government and a decent respect for the ordinances already enacted. Law and order and municipal reform became the watchwords of the good citizens of Lincoln, while the others were in favor of the then established order of things.

Among the elective officers to be chosen under the new charter were the mayor and six councilmen.

These considerations all contributed to make the election one of the most spirited ever witnessed in Lincoln.

There were three candidates for the mayoralty: Edward P. Roggen, ex-secretary of state, by the regular republican convention; Andrew J. Cropsey, by the prohibitionists; and Andrew J. Sawyer, by the citizens' reform movement, which was largely made up of republicans.

The result was the election of the citizens' candidate by a majority of 537.

The city council after the election consisted of Lorenzo W. Billingsley, Lewis C. Pace, Granville Ensign, William J. Cooper, Joseph Z. Briscoe, James Dailey, John Fraas, Robert B. Graham, Henry H. Dean, Fred A. Hovey, John M. Burks and Nelson C. Brock.

The newly elected officers were in due time inducted into office, took the prescribed oath, pledged themselves to duly and faithfully administer the affairs of the city, see that the laws thereof were carefully executed, and settled down to the performance of their duties as best they knew. Having adjusted themselves to the conditions imposed by the new charter, they selected an entirely new



O STREET, LOOKING WEST FROM THIRTEENTH, LINCOLN



O STREET, LOOKING EAST FROM TWELFTH, LINCOLN

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{x}(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega$$



police force, under civil service rules and regulations, and instructed them to see that all the existing ordinances were strictly and rigidly enforced. They then turned their attention to the work of public improvements, the paving of the streets, construction of sewers, waterworks, and the like, and the general routine of municipal affairs; and so spring passed into summer and summer into fall with little occurring to disturb the serenity of the council or jar the machinery of the new government; but the sear and yellow leaf brought sore trials and tribulations to the reform administration.

So far as we can judge, the new administration would have had comparatively easy sailing had it not been for the police judge. He had been elected the spring before for a term of two years, and consequently was a hold-over official with yet a year to serve.

There had been rumors afloat for some time that "even handed justice" was not always dispensed from his bench; that the eyes of the presiding goddess were not infrequently unveiled, and that the scales of justice were scarcely, if ever, accurately adjusted, and that the ermine had even been known to cover the wool-sack at places remote from where the seat of the city court had been permanently established.

Whenever the fountains of justice are corrupted, whether in inferior, limited, general, or superior jurisdictions, the people within those jurisdictions experience a most unfortunate condition of things, and one of the most intolerable and crying evils of our times is the inefficient and often absolutely corrupt and dissolute personages selected to administer justice in the lower courts and particularly in the police courts of our larger cities.

The citizens cannot be too circumspect in the selection of these officials, for no permanent and effectual municipal reforms can be had until these primary courts are thoroughly purged from the corrupt ward strikers and political heelers who, having secured these places for party services by "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain," in the name of justice perpetrate injustice, fraud, and oppression.

What had been rumor at length took definite form. Three citizens and taxpayers, who had cognizance of the delinquencies of the judge, filed with the city clerk a petition or complaint in which they set forth that the police judge of the City of Lincoln had collected large sums of money, in his capacity of police judge, as fines from certain people who were conducting certain out-lawed occupations, and that he had failed to make any report of the same on his dockets or to account to the city therefor. That he had also collected fines for the violation of the statutes of Nebraska to the amount of \$329, as shown by his dockets, which amount he had neglected and refused to turn over to the county treasurer as required by law, and assuring the council that they had ample evidence to substantiate the charges, requested that a thorough investigation be made. Under the city ordinance it became the duty of the city council, when charges were preferred against any of the elective officers of the city, to institute an inquiry, and, if the person accused should be found guilty, to declare his office vacant. Accordingly, a committee consisting of Councilmen Billingsley, Briscoe and Pace was appointed to investigate the complaint. A time and place were fixed for the taking of testimony, and due notice was served upon the defendant. The defendant filed his answer, in which he first made a general denial and then

admitted that he had failed to turn over to the county treasurer certain funds he had collected, but claimed that his failure was due to his ignorance or misunderstanding of the law. At the time appointed for the taking of testimony defendant appeared with his counsel, Messrs. L. C. Burr, O. P. Mason and C. E. Magoon; the complainants with their counsel, D. G. Courtney, J. B. Strode and J. E. Philpot. The taking of testimony occupied some five or six weeks. When the committee came to make their report to the council they stated that in their opinion they had no authority, as a committee, to make findings of fact, or in any sense to try said police judge upon the charges. That as the ordinance stood he should be tried by the council sitting as a body and not by a committee. The council in the meantime had discovered the defect in the ordinance and amended the same so as to authorize a committee to act in lieu of the whole number. The same committee was then reappointed to proceed under the amended ordinance to take testimony and make their report. As much time had already been consumed, it was stipulated that the testimony already taken might be used with the right of either party to offer such additional evidence as he might desire. When the testimony was all in, the second committee, after a most stormy siege and constant bombardment of lawyers on either side, made their report. Among other things, the report showed that in the spring of 1886 the police judge had made arrangements with Gus Saunders, the proprietor of some gambling rooms, that he should pay a monthly fine of \$10 and costs for himself, and \$5 for each of his employees engaged in gambling. That the police judge collected monthly such fines, in some instances going to the gambling rooms to make collections. That in consideration of the payment of the fines Saunders and his employees had immunity from arrests and trials. The committee also found that no complaints had been filed or warrants issued or arrests made or trials had in such cases. That the same mode of procedure was had concerning the fines for prostitution. That he had collected a large amount of money for fines under the statutes of Nebraska and appropriated the same to his own use, when he should have turned it over to the treasurer of the county. The committee accordingly recommended that the city council declare the office of police judge of the City of Lincoln vacant, and the mayor be requested to fill the office with some suitable person by appointment.

The committee made their report to the council on the 12th of September. Complainants and respondent were present with their attorneys. Both the respondent and his attorneys importuned the council in speeches both eloquent and lengthy not to rely upon the report of the committee but to listen as a body to the reading of the testimony and the further argument of the case. They declared that the committee was without authority to hear the evidence and that both the committee and city council were without jurisdiction to try the respondent on the charges preferred, because, as they said, the ordinance of August 15, 1887, was an *ex post facto* law; yet if the whole council would listen to the evidence and argument of the attorneys they would be satisfied with the decision reached. The council concluded to accede to the wish of the accused and, at his request, the case was adjourned to a day certain, when the council, as a body, was to sit in judgment in the case. This arrangement seemed to be perfectly satisfactory to the accused. The real purpose, however, in securing the adjournment was not that the council might be afforded an opportunity to

further hear the case, but rather that they might be relieved from having anything further to do with the proceedings; for, in the meantime, Attorney L. A. Burr, for respondent, went to St. Louis and exhibited to the Hon. David J. Brewer, then circuit judge of this circuit, a bill in equity in which he claimed that his client was being tried by the city council of Lincoln, in violation of the Constitution of the United States, and was being deprived of his liberty without due process of law, and prayed that a writ of injunction might issue to restrain the mayor and city council from further proceedings in the case. Upon hearing the bill, the circuit judge, on the 24th of September, 1887, made an order that the defendants show cause on Monday, the 24th day of October next, at the courthouse in Omaha, why a preliminary injunction should not issue as prayed for, and in the meantime restrained the council from any further proceedings.

The feelings that possessed them when they were served by a deputy marshal with notice that they had been enjoined from proceeding further in the investigation may be better imagined than described. The evidence had disclosed beyond all possible doubt that the police judge was guilty of the charges preferred against him. That he had entered into a compact with gamblers and other lawless members of society to receive at stated times certain fines agreed upon for the conducting of certain occupations which had no right to exist, without the formality of law or proceedings in court. This wanton disregard of duty, this shameless violation of law, this private barter and sale of justice to the gamblers, pimps, and prostitutes of Lincoln were enough to arouse the righteous indignation of every citizen possessing the slightest regard for law, order or decency.

At the time set for the further hearing of the case the council convened. They were certainly in an unhappy frame of mind. They were confronted by a condition and not a theory. The condition was the unseemly spectacle of a police magistrate on the bench in the capital of the state who had shamelessly trailed the ermine of the judge in the filth and mire of the brothels and gambling dens of the city which had honored him with his election.

The theory was the chimerical conception of the police judge and his attorneys that local self-government, which had become an established fact, and endeared to the hearts of the American people ever since the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, and which in fact constituted the very cornerstone of the republic, was, after all, a myth, a delusion, and a snare; that a city, county or state was powerless to purge itself, in the manner pointed out by law, of the corrupt and reckless officials that might fasten themselves upon the bodies politic.

On the night in question the council chamber was thronged with citizens anxiously awaiting the action of the council.

The condition and the theory stood like grim specters in the presence of the city fathers, unwelcome, as they were forbidding, to the presence of all assembled.

To adopt the theory and await the final decision of the Federal Court as to whether they might be permitted to do a little housecleaning on their own account in their own bailiwick, would necessitate the continuance of the condition. And very likely defendant would complete his term of office long before a final decision could be reached, and the end sought to be accomplished by the investigation completely defeated.

On the other hand, not to accept the theory was to go counter to the mandate of the court and incur the risk of fine and possibly imprisonment for contempt of court.

While the mayor and council had the greatest respect for the learning and ability of the eminent jurist (since one of the justices of the Supreme Court) they could not but feel that the injunction had been allowed under false representations, and that, when the true state of affairs was made known to him, he would not be disposed to look with such contemptuous disfavor upon their acts as upon those who procured the writ to issue. Besides, after a careful investigation, they became satisfied that a Federal Court of equity was without any jurisdiction to restrain the action of the council in performance of an act enjoined upon them by the law of the state. Therefore, after a careful, candid, and earnest consideration of the subject, it was unanimously decided to proceed with the investigation, notwithstanding the restraining order of the court.

The council, on the 29th of September, 1887, confirmed the findings of the committee, declared the office of police judge vacant, and instructed the clerk to notify him of their action.

Upon the receipt of the notice the judge declared his intention to continue to hold possession and dispense justice (?) until removed by force.

The following proceedings were then had and done:

"Lincoln, Neb., September 30, 1887.

"Marshal P. H. Cooper:

"You are hereby notified that H. J. Whitmore has duly qualified and given his bond, and has been duly commissioned police judge to fill the vacancy occasioned by the action of the city council last evening, and you will please see that he is duly installed in his office.

"A. J. SAWYER,  
"Mayor."

The order was promptly carried out. The police judge was bodily removed, and thenceforth it was Judge H. J. Whitmore, police judge of the City of Lincoln. It is needless to say that justice was enthroned, the office honored, and the ermine kept unspotted as long as Judge Whitmore presided.

We had crossed the Rubicon, and were waiting for developments. The ex-police judge, no longer permitted to mete out justice, and deprived of the emoluments of office, was in anything but an amiable frame of mind, and his attorneys, thwarted in their plans, were most belligerent.

Dire vengeance was threatened upon every one who had participated in the investigation or who had aided and abetted therein. The consequence was that the developments were not tardy in maturing.

On the 8th day of October following, the ex-judge filed his affidavit in the Circuit Court of the United States, setting forth all that was said and done at the September 29th meeting of the council, from which I make the following excerpts:

"Notwithstanding all this the said mayor and all of said council, except N. C. Brock, proceeded knowingly, wittingly, wilfully, boastingly, and con-

temptuously to disregard the order of this honorable court in the matter of this injunction.

"Affiant further alleges that on the 30th day of September, 1887, a certain notice was served upon him of the action of said council in declaring his office vacant. A copy of which notice is hereto attached, marked exhibit A.

"Said notice was served upon said affiant by P. H. Cooper, city marshal of said city, and affiant told said city marshal that he would not recognize the action of the said city council, and would not surrender said office until lawfully removed or forcibly ejected. The said city marshal then produced the order from said A. J. Sawyer, mayor, directing him to see that the said H. J. Whitmore is duly installed in said office.

"In pursuance of said order said marshal seized this affiant by the shoulders and forcibly ejected him from said office, and wrongfully and unlawfully installed said Whitmore therein.

"—————."

Upon the filing of the foregoing, the following notice was served upon the mayor and each of the councilmen:

"Whereas, It is suggested of record to us that you and each of you knowingly violated the injunction heretofore issued in this action,

"Wherefore it is ordered that you and each of you show cause on Tuesday, November 15, 1887, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon at the United States Court room in the City of Omaha, Neb., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, why you shall not be attached for contempt, if said suggestions are true.

"ELMER S. DUNDY,  
"Judge."

To the rule to show cause, respondents made return setting forth all the facts in connection with the investigation, the want of jurisdiction of the court to entertain the case, first, because the amount in controversy did not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars, exclusive of interest and cost; second, because a court of equity had no jurisdiction of the subject matter of the action, and gave the reasons which impelled them to violate the injunctional order, and asked that they might be heard by counsel, and that upon a full hearing they might be discharged from further proceedings.

On the 17th of November, 1887, as appears from Journal M of the United States Circuit Court, the cause came on to be heard upon the order to show cause, and upon the return thereto of the defendants, upon consideration whereof it is ordered by the court that an attachment be and hereby is granted for the arrest of the defendants Andrew J. Sawyer, mayor of the City of Lincoln, Neb., and Joseph Z. Briscoe, John M. Burks, William J. Cooper, L. C. Pace, H. H. Dean, Lorenzo W. Billingsley, Robert B. Graham, Fred A. Hovey, Granville Ensign, John Fraas, and J. H. Dailey, councilmen of said City of Lincoln, returnable at 10 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday, November 22, 1887.

Warrants were forthwith issued for the arrest of the offenders and placed in the hands of Deputy Marshal Hastings, who lost no time in making the arrests. The ex-judge was now having his innings, and he and his attorneys were in ecstasies over the rapid progress they were making towards the time

when condign punishment would be visited upon the culprits who had despoiled him of office and robbed him of the emoluments thereof. They could see no reason why the kind hearted deputy marshal should allow the prisoners sufficient liberty to return to their homes and bid farewell to their wives and families or close up important matters then pending before the council; but the deputy marshal, who was a resident of Lincoln, and who had had long personal acquaintance with his prisoners, felt no fear but what they would be forthcoming, and allowed them their liberty on promise that they would report in court on the day named.

The journal in the city clerk's office on November 21, 1887, records the regular meeting of the council in the evening of that date, the transaction of a large amount of business, and resolution that "when the council adjourned it was to meet at the B. and M. depot next morning at 8 o'clock sharp."

It was about the hour of sunset on Monday, the day before the time appointed for the hearing, when "Pap" Hastings, the deputy marshal, hurled himself into the presence of the contemptuous councilmen, with those ominous writs which he parceled out to each defendant by name.

After a careful inspection of the documents, Councilman Billingsley, who, with great fortitude, had moved that the office of police judge be declared vacant, was observed to raise his optics from the parchment and gaze with a faraway look to where the sun was descending behind the western hill tops, but Councilman Dean, whose optimistic nature would not permit him to contemplate any ill omens, and whose unclouded nature was ever as serene as a summer's sky, essayed to dispel the gloom that was settling down upon the disturbed defendants by imitating the action of Richmond when he summoned his trusty generals about him on the eve of the meeting with Richard on the field of Bosworth.

Addressing the discousolate around him, and pointing toward the departing orb, he said,

"Look ye, the weary sun hath made a golden set,  
And by the bright light of his fiery car  
Gives token of a goodly day tomorrow."

He paused; for the moment solemn stillness reigned. For the time bleak melancholy seemed to mark each pensive prisoner for her own. Meanwhile Dean's eyes swept the heavens as with telescopic vision. Again he broke the silence, "See yonder constellations in the darkening skies, Ursa Minor, Ursa Major, Orion and the far away Pleiades. I tell ye for a truth they are, at this very moment, each and all in complete juxtaposition. From boyhood up I have read the starry heavens as an open book. I have learned to cast the horoscope with the same unerring certainty that the whaler casts the harpoon, and I declare to ye, the heavenly signs are all propitious."

Just at this moment, when he was beginning to wax eloquent over objects too remote for the contemplation or comprehension of ordinary mortals, he was interrupted by Councilman Fraas, who, thinking it unbecoming for one culprit to occupy so much precious time, gave vent to his Teutonic feelings in the laconic words which have since become historic: "Es macht mir müde."

J. M. Burks said this is "the winter of my discontent." Pace was heard to

mutter that "The paths of glory lead but to the grave," while all the rest joined in the chorus,

"Our honor and our freedom's at the stake  
Which to defend we must away and answer to the summons of the court."

Scarcely had the refrain died away when the demoniac voice of the ex-judge, who had been a silent, unobserved spectator, rang out,

"And my fame on brighter pages  
Penned by poets and by sages  
Shall go thundering down the ages."

The morrow came; but not the good one predicted by Dean. The sky was overcast with clouds. The earth was covered with a mantle of white. The snow was still falling, and the wind was chill and piercing.

At 8 o'clock the city fathers answered roll call at the depot and were soon speeding as fast as steam would carry them into the presence of the court whose majesty they had offended. Many of Lincoln's prominent citizens were on board, anxious to learn the fate of their city council. It was here the writer first met the inimitable Walt Mason, dispatched by the Journal to chronicle all that might befall the reform administration.

No one in the state could wield a more ready, graceful, or graphic pen than he, and the daily pen pictures of the trials, tribulations, temptations and vicissitudes of the city fathers furnished by Walt to the press will keep his memory ever green in the recollection of all who had the pleasure of reading them. Nor did he, when the bolts of the prison doors grated harshly upon the ears of the condemned, for once desert them, but boldly entered in, snuffed the same tainted atmosphere, drank from the same canteen, sat at the same festal board, slept in the same bunks, and gave the world a true and faithful history of prison life as experienced in the Omaha bastille.

But we digress. An hour and a half's ride and the voice of the conductor cried out, "Omaha!" Alighting from the coach and accompanied by the deputy marshal they were soon on their way to the courthouse, the observed of all observers.

Reaching the door of the courtroom, they found the spacious hall of justice packed with legal luminaries and eager spectators. A bailiff in commanding tones said, "Make way for the prisoners!" The way was cleared, and they were ushered across the room and furnished seats in the jury box, at the right of the Honorable Judges Brewer and Dundy, who had already taken their seats and were awaiting the arrival.

When all were seated, such a deathlike stillness pervaded the room that the thumping of the hearts in the breasts of the prisoners could be heard, "like muffled drums beating funeral marches to the grave."

At length the silence was broken by Judge Brewer, who inquired if the attorneys were ready to proceed in the matter of the contempt of the Lincoln City Council. Mr. G. M. Lambertson, their attorney, arose and informed the court that they were ready to proceed, and asked that Councilman Billingsley be per-

mitted to show cause why the defendants should not be punished for contempt. Mr. Billingsley had prepared an elaborate review of the investigation from beginning to end, which, to the minds of the councilmen, presented excellent reasons why they should not be punished for their action. He assured the court that not one ill word or harsh term had escaped the lips of any of the councilmen at the time they took the action that had called forth the writ of attachment, but, on the contrary, they had expressed the deepest regret that a judge of so high character, unquestioned integrity, and great legal attainments should feel it his duty to bar their action in an investigation which to them seemed necessary to secure better municipal government; that the mayor and the city council had endeavored to act with decorum and propriety becoming their official position; that they relied upon justice at the hands of the court by presenting the justness of their cause. He called the attention of the court to the accession of the city council to the request of the ex-police judge and his attorney, that the case might be heard by the council as a body, and the postponement of the hearing for their accommodation; how he had taken advantage of the postponement to thwart their action; how his attorney had, by misrepresentations in the bill, imposed upon the court; and that without such misrepresentations he felt sure that the court would not have allowed the injunction; that, while there was a bare possibility that the court might look upon their action in declaring vacant the office of police judge with disfavor, on the other hand a sense of shame, disgrace, and humiliation would follow from a failure to carry out what they considered to be their sworn duty in the premises, a disregard of which would bring upon them the criticism, gibes, and contempt of all good citizens, and would continue in office as police judge for two or three months, or probably until the end of his term of office, one whom they deemed utterly unfit for the position and one who had brought disgrace and shame not only upon the office he held, but upon the City of Lincoln; that the council had endeavored to inform themselves upon the legal aspect of the case and were thoroughly satisfied that the court was without jurisdiction to entertain the case, and that the ex-police judge, if he had any cause of action, had adequate remedy at law. That the bill of complaint did not show a sum amounting to \$2,000 in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs; that these reasons were offered to show the court that the violation of the order was not done insolently or recklessly or without respect to the honor and dignity of the court, and prayed that their honors might consider these reasons in mitigation of the offending.

At the close of Mr. Billingsley's statement Mr. Lambertson asked permission to introduce some oral testimony, which was granted. The mayor was then sworn and examined by Mr. Lambertson as to the character and standing of several members of the city council. Allegations contained in the bill upon which the injunction was secured reflected seriously upon the character and standing of the councilmen, and would naturally lead the judge who granted the order to think that the Lincoln City Council was made up of gamblers, or those in sympathy with the gambling fraternity, and the purpose of the examination was to disabuse the mind of the court of any preconceived erroneous impressions he might have formed. The testimony developed that all of the councilmen were gentlemen engaged in lawful occupations. That they were men of excellent



business standing, honest, honorable, and of high character, and that they had no sympathy or affiliation with the lawless elements of the city.

The ex-judge was then called to the stand by his attorney, Mr. Burr, and detailed minutely the circumstances and transactions of the council at the meeting immediately preceding that at which the final vote was taken and the one at which the question of adopting the report of the committee without reading the testimony was discussed and voted upon.

These were the only two witnesses examined. The examination took up the forenoon. Court convened in the afternoon and listened to the argument of counsel. Judge Brewer then stated that he would decide the matter in question at 10 o'clock A. M. the next day, and the council filed out, as one of the newspapers stated, "with considerable time left in which to contemplate the uncertainties of this life and vicissitudes of aldermanic existence."

Promptly at 10 o'clock the next morning the judges were on the bench and the prisoners in the box. It is needless to remark that they also were on the tiptoe of expectation. During the adjournment they had canvassed the probabilities of a favorable or unfavorable decision of the court and had heard the subject very generally discussed. Most of the members of the bar and public sentiment generally believed that the decision would be favorable, and the buoyant expression of hope beamed from the countenance of the members as they sat awaiting judgment. Councilman Ensign was so sure of a favorable outcome that he was heard to whisper to the members of the council that they needn't worry; that he would pay all fines that might be assessed against them.

Judge Brewer then began to deliver his opinion, the courtroom being again thronged with spectators. The judge reviewed the case at length and proceeded in an elaborate opinion to show that the court had jurisdiction of the subject matter, and that, while the bill was defective in not stating any amount in controversy, yet that was a matter which could be amended. A court of equity had the right to enjoin the proceedings of a state tribunal in a case of the nature presented by the bill. After sweeping away the various objections urged by attorneys for the council as to jurisdiction, he then came to the reasons urged in mitigation of the offense and said that another matter should be taken into consideration; that is, what circumstances of expiation, wrong, or trickery, fancied or real, provoked the action which was done.

"It is," said he, "human nature to resent an act, a wrong accomplished by a trick, and we must always recognize that as a part of our common human nature. If parties, mistaken or otherwise, fancy they have been tricked into a position where their proceedings are likely to be baffled, it is not to be wondered at that they felt keenly, and the court cannot blind its eyes to such a matter as that."

Then he reviewed what the defendants had said in regard to the postponement of the hearing of the investigation and the acceding to the wish of the ex-judge and the alleged deception practiced upon him by the council.

"These things," said he, "all come in mitigation. These things all have induced me to feel that I would not be justified in imposing (here every countenance brightened up in anticipation that he was about to say 'fine') imprisonment." A bolt from a clear sky could not have produced a greater surprise than when the judge said "imprisonment." They were counting on complete

exoneration. "On the other hand," said he, "they are gentlemen of character and position. They represent the second city in the state, as I am advised, in wealth, in population, and in business. (Here a gleam of hope seemed to animate the tired council.) They are the council of the capital city of the state. If the court should say that men occupying so high a position can disregard the process of the courts (here all hope departed) what may we expect from men having no such backing of position, respectability and influence? Can we ask the poor, friendless man to obey the process of the court if men occupying positions, such as these men do, do not? Am I not compelled by the very fact of the respectability of the gentlemen, of the position that they hold, to impose such a fine as shall be a lesson, not merely a punishment to them, but a lesson to all? (At this point the stalwart councilmen showed signs of great depression.) I have tried to look at this case in all of its phases, and, while I am very glad that I was able to come to a conclusion that no imprisonment was proper, and it will be unnecessary and therefore an improper exercise of power to send any one of them to jail, I have, on the other hand, felt that I could not pass it by lightly, and that I ought to impress a heavy fine. I believe that in so doing I shall benefit these defendants and every good citizen of this state if the size of the fine be such that every citizen, high or low, shall understand that this is a Government of the law, and that the processes of the courts are to be obeyed, and that every wrong may be righted in the orderly administration of affairs, and that no such proceedings of taking the law into one's own hands as was initiated in Chicago can be tolerated anywhere. Three of these gentlemen voted against taking up these matters: Mr. Briscoe, Mr. Burks and Mr. Cooper. The fine imposed upon them will be \$50 each. The mayor had no vote, but was enjoined from appointing an officer; he had nothing to do with the removing of the petitioner. After that removal was accomplished, although the mandate forbade him to make an appointment, I can well see how one might say 'here is a vacancy of office, not by my action; I cannot leave the City of Lincoln without a police judge,' and so acted. The same fine will be imposed upon him. Upon the other eight the fine will be \$600 upon each one. The order will be that they pay this fine and the costs of the proceedings and stand committed to the custody of the marshal until it is paid."

Judge Dundy followed, and in a terse and decisive way concurred in the opinion of Judge Brewer.

The generous councilman who had promised to take care of the fines was immediately seen by his fellows, but his pocketbook was as emaciated as himself, for it contained only \$10.13. It was suggested by some that even that amount might be served to liquidate the fines, had not the witness on their behalf attributed such intelligence and characters as to remove them from the category of ordinary councilmen. As it was, the fat was in the fire, and the only thing left was to be committed until the fine was paid, or their release secured from a higher tribunal.

A hasty consultation was had. In anticipation of the worst that might befall them, a complete record had been made up, as far as it had gone, preparatory for making an application to the Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus. The record was completed and Mr. Lambertson took the first train for Washington, D. C., and Marshal Bierbower took the prisoners to the jail at Omaha,

Neb. On the way to jail Councilman Dean grew weary. As they were passing a drug store he told the marshal that he was subject to fits and faintings, and, as he felt his malady coming on, it was necessary for him to get some fit medicine. At the command of the marshal the procession halted. Dean left the ranks, satchel in hand, and entered the pharmacy. In a few moments he returned, apparently rejuvenated, but it was observed that his satchel possessed a much greater specific gravity than when he left. When asked if he expected to have fits enough to consume all that medicine he replied he did not, but thought his companions might before they got through.

They straightway awarded him a vote of thanks, and gave him the appellation of Doctor Dean, a name by which he was ever afterwards recognized.

Doctor Dean now found no difficulty in keeping step, and they all marched with military precision, led by the marshal, up the rugged way to the castle on the hill.

The presence of so many fine looking gentlemen carrying knapsacks, marching in perfect order and martial array in that direction, excited no little curiosity. They were stared at by crowds of men and women, and great numbers of small boys followed the procession, while the dogs did bark as they passed by.

At the command to halt, the weary pilgrims stood in the shadow of the bastille, over whose portal was the inscription:

"ALL HOPE ABANDON YE WHO ENTER HERE"

Each glanced at the writing and then at the other. The sentiment was not reassuring, but it was too late to recant, even had they entertained such a thought. The ponderous iron bolts were heard to turn; the heavy doors swung open, the darksome dungeon yawned to receive them, and they entered in, the door closed, and Lincoln's reform administration was literally barred from the world without.

"It was a time for memory and for tears."

Marshal Bierbower delivered the mittimus and prisoners to Sheriff Coburn, who in return gave him a receipt for each and graciously received the new addition to his already large and variegated family.

After the marshal had taken his departure, Sheriff Coburn said, "I understand you are from Lincoln." All nodded assent. A moment's pause and Dean added, "via Federal Court." The sheriff then conducted his new arrivals to a desk, upon which lay the register of the Hotel De Bastille. Shortly it was illuminated with the autographs of a dozen men, who but yesterday governed a great city, but "now none so poor to do them reverence."

After remarking upon the exceptional page of signatures, he turned to the aldermen and said, "Gentlemen, make yourselves at home. You see I am somewhat crowded. Winter is our busy time. However, you must be content and I will do the best I can for you." He then departed, leaving his guests in a large corridor.

"Take a chair," said Councilman Dailey, as he sat himself down upon the cold stone floor of the apartment. Some obeyed, others stood up, leaning against the walls for support. In this attitude they took in the situation. A combination and mixture of unearthly odors and stenches so rank as to smell to heaven assaulted their olfactories. "Why," said Councilman Pace, "all the perfumes of

Arabia could not sweeten these apartments." Nor was the prospect to the eye more pleasing. Some thirty or forty wretched prisoners, ragged and dirty, some with bloodshot and leering eyes, were loose in the corridor, some standing, some walking, and others lying on the floor sleeping off their last night's debauch. A still larger number of the more dangerous and desperate class huddled into the several tiers of iron cells that partly surrounded the open court.

The faithful chronicler of whom we have spoken, writing at the time says, "Their hearts were somewhat troubled when they gazed about the corridors into which they had been ushered and where they were obliged to wait nearly an hour before the apartments intended for them were made ready. It afforded a view of several tiers of cells, packed with the vilest looking crowd of hoodlums ever assembled behind iron bars. And the corridor was also occupied by about thirty or forty of the same brand. A shining light in this apartment was the one-armed light of society, named Pasco (I think), who was recently arrested at Lincoln for swindling in land."

Thirty minutes in this revolting scene and breathing the fetid atmosphere caused a number of the city fathers to experience a feeling of nausea. This was observed by the quick eye of Doctor Dean. He rushed to his satchel, opened it, and took therefrom two huge quart bottles of "fit medicine." Holding them in either hand, he first took a dose himself and then passed the medicine bottles to his companions, assuring them that he had used the medicine for thirty years, and that it never failed to produce good results. The doctor's medicine came like a ray of sunshine into the midst of his companions. When the medicine bottle came to Burks he hesitated. He looked at the bottle, then at the surroundings, and then, addressing his fellow-councilmen, said: "Boys, there is no use in talking; all the fit medicine in Christendom would not suffice to relieve me. I have been indisposed for more than a month. I see the portals of the grave opening to receive me if I am not speedily admitted to the sunlight and fresh atmosphere. Here (taking from his pocket a certificate from his physician, which he had taken the precaution to procure before leaving home) is what my physician says. While I would willingly stay by you, yet I am admonished by this certificate and my failing pulse that self-preservation is the first law of nature. I have just \$50 in my purse. If they will take it I shall willingly give it for my liberty." Doctor Dean made a diagnosis of the sufferer and decided that his medicine was not powerful enough to effect a cure, and that Burks should pay his fine and be discharged. This was accordingly done and Councilman Burks boarded the first train for Lincoln.

An hour passed on. A number had seated themselves upon the cold floor, and were beginning to adjust themselves to their hard conditions, when Sheriff Coburn appeared in their presence. He commanded them to arise and follow him. Again we quote from the same faithful chronicler:

"About 5 o'clock the prisoners were shown to their apartments, which comprise two large rooms and a small room in the southeast corner of the second floor. They are scarcely dungeons in a literal sense of the word. The absence of chairs, racks and thumbscrews is apparent to the most casual observer. A highly polished coal stove keeps out the cold air of November in the highest style of the art, while the floors are handsomely carpeted, and lounges and easy chairs are scattered around in a way that would have made John Bunyan write

ten more chapters of his Pilgrim's Progress had he been confined here. Fragrant flowers are in the windows, while the walls are adorned with valuable pictures, among which is a chromo, presumably by Raphael, representing Judas Iscariot hanging himself. The distinguished prisoners contend, however, that the moral value of the picture is impaired, as the only member of the body who could derive a valuable lesson from it is absent. Lace curtains adorn the windows, and handsome chandeliers furnish all the illumination desired. In short, the apartments now occupied by the city fathers in Lincoln are as comfortable as the homes of many aristocrats. It is not at all likely that groans, shrieks, or appeals for mercy will be heard by those without, unless it be as a result of some of Dean's jokes, which are constantly on draught and gurgle around like flowing streams in deserts weary. Their confinement will lack many of the elements of martyrdom. The lack of that esteemed boon known to orators as liberty will be the chief affliction. A lynx-eyed Ethiopian, who has been so well trained that he already refers to Fred Hovey as 'colonel' and Jim Dailey as 'judge' has been detailed to wait upon them and obey their slightest mandates. A special cook has also been delegated to the task of preparing savory viands for them, which they will eat in a comfortable and spacious dining hall on the first floor, where no other prisoners will be allowed. Parties who have served a term in the Siberian mines freely admit that the punishment inflicted upon the heroes of whom this essay treats is much preferable and not nearly so galling to the spirit.

"The councilmen themselves, while not being superlatively happy, are removed from absolute misery by several degrees. The air of calm resignation that lies upon the face of J. Z. Briscoe is refreshing to the intellectual observer, while his companions are also overflowing with a spirit of 'peace on earth and good will toward men.' At 7 o'clock the gentlemen are thus occupied (the details may be trivial, but they will be interesting to their anguished relatives):

"L. W. Billingsley, W. J. Cooper, Gran Ensign and H. H. Dean are sitting by the blazing hearth lost in the fascinating excitement attending a game known to science as poker. They seem to control their grief quite manfully, and no sobs have yet been heard.

"A. J. Sawyer is diligently reading a law book, while a look of ineffable calm makes his face a study.

"J. Z. Briscoe is walking the floor like a caged lion, or like a man who has a large concentrated toothache concealed about his person. He disclaims all remorse or anxiety, however, and will endeavor to hold her nozzel agin the bank till the last galoot's ashore.

"Fred Hovey acts like one who is convinced that whatever is, is right. His appetite is unimpaired, and his friends in Lincoln have thus far no necessity to pine or wither away through anxiety about him.

"L. C. Pace is contemplating the game of poker alluded to above with the air of one who has been in the neighborhood himself.

"The balance of them are scattered around on lounges and cushioned chairs, looking as if their agony had not reached an insupportable point, and most of them will doubtless survive the ordeal. The apartments they occupy were formerly used as the sheriff's residence, and command an excellent view of the city. They are clean and pleasant and are furnished with everything necessary

for a pious and circumspect life, from a large Polyglot Bible to a copy of Lambertson's petition to a higher court, with the previous translations diligently compared and revised.

"The martyrs will sleep on new cots specially provided for them, with comfortable clothing. These will be brought in during the evening when the curfew tolls the knell of parting day, and removed during the daytime, to make more room for the doomed men when they want exercise. Since they anticipated hard bunks, it is a matter of great encouragement to them that they can 'wrap the drapery of their couch about them and lie down to pleasant dreams' as if they were at home.

"In such a manner has the first day of their imprisonment passed. The ruddy glow of health is still on each cheek, and melancholy has so far marked none of them for her own. Had they been required to enter the dismal cells occupied by the lower criminals, they would have done so without flinching. That they are as comfortable as they are should be a matter of congratulation to Lincoln, for whose sweet sake they are looking out at streets they may not tread.

"Religious literature, sponge cakes, chewing tobacco and other physical and spiritual refreshments should be sent to Mr. Billingsley, who has been appointed as chairman of the committee on supplies. Communications for the mayor or members of the council should be addressed 'in care of Sheriff Coburn'".

The apartments were those occupied by Deputy Sheriff Major Houck, who kindly turned them over to the councilmen, to whose kind attention and many acts of courtesy they will ever feel themselves deeply indebted.

The good citizens of Omaha contributed much to soften the asperities of prison life. Chief among these was Hon. H. T. Clarke. To facilitate communication with the outside world the Western Union Telegraph Company, through its gentlemanly superintendent, J. J. Dickey, supplied the councilmen and their wives with telegraphic franks, as did also the express companies.

Their apartments became daily veritable reception rooms. Many of the notables of the state paid their respects by their calls and hearty expressions of sympathy and good cheer, among whom was Governor Thayer, who showed a deep interest and assured the council that if the decision was adverse he would go himself to the President and make an appeal in their behalf; Hon. J. Sterling Morton, who brought with him for their consolation and edification a copy of the Connecticut Blue Laws; Hon. George L. Miller, Hon. Edward Rosewater, Hon. James E. Boyd, who furnished them with carte blanche to his Opera House; Mayor Broatch and the councilmen of Omaha, who tendered them a banquet, and the ministers of the city who extended a cordial invitation to the pews of their churches.

Many resolutions of sympathy, numerous signed, from different parts of the state and from city councils, were received.

Flowers, fruits, cigars, and many other good things came pouring in by express till it became necessary to organize a commissary department with James Dailey at the head.

The council availed themselves of the entree to Boyd's Opera House and witnessed among other plays, "Alone in London," "A Great Wrong," and "All is Well that Ends Well."

In the meantime Mr. Lambertson was putting forth his best energies in Washington to interest the Supreme Court in their behalf.

On the fourth day of their incarceration he dispatched the council that he would have "a hearing before the Supreme Court the first thing tomorrow, Friday morning, and that the decision would probably be handed down on Monday."

Notwithstanding they were being daily besieged with kind friends, good cheer, and stalwart resolutions, they were becoming exceedingly anxious to learn what the Supreme Court would say of them. "Eagerly they watched the morrow" for some tidings from the court. They were not disappointed. A telegram from Attorney Lambertson stated that the court had "granted a rule to show cause returnable December 12," and that a "writ of habeas corpus would issue later if necessary."

The fact that the court had granted a rule to show cause lent encouragement to the hope that the court was favorably disposed, otherwise the rule would have been denied.

The council on receipt of this dispatch wired Mr. Lambertson to make some arrangements whereby they might be admitted to bail, until the final decision, and at the same time be relieved from the expense of going to Washington.

The next day, Saturday, the following dispatch was received:

"Washington, D. C., December 3, 1887.

"A. J. Sawyer, Omaha:

"See telegram to the marshal. Judge Miller doubts the power of Judge Dundy to take bail. He thinks Bierbower ought to allow you to go on parole of honor. If not, writ will issue Monday. Don't give bail, for then the marshal could return that you were not in his custody. G. M. LAMBERTSON."

Pursuant to the above, Marshal Bierbower was seen, but he did not feel that he could take any action in the matter, as he derived his authority from Judge Brewer, whose mandate he must obey until he received orders from a higher power.

"Between the alternative of jail and asking Judge Brewer," says the chronicler, "the council determined to choose the jail."

Later, however, the following dispatch was received:

"Washington, D. C., December 3d.

"Senator Paddock and Congressman McShane went with Mr. Lambertson to see Attorney-General Garland about admitting the mayor and city council to bail, or letting them out on parole of honor. The attorney-general expressed great surprise that they should be imprisoned, and said that he would direct the marshal at Omaha to place the prisoners nominally in the custody of the deputy marshal at their homes in Lincoln until the case is finally decided by the court."

Acting upon the order wired him by the attorney-general, Marshal Bierbower placed the council in charge of Deputy United States Marshal Allen, who allowed them to return home on parole of honor to report to him should the decision of the Supreme Court be adverse. This brought great joy to the council, and they began to feel that genuine progress was now being made in their behalf.

They had now been in durance vile six days. Meanwhile the City of Lincoln had been without any government. We again quote from the faithful chronicler:

"About the time the city fathers were breaking camp preparatory to taking their departure for home, they were made glad by a call from his excellency,

Governor Thayer. The register in which were recorded the names of the many guests who had paid their respects during the days of the council's confinement had been packed away with many other trophies to be carried to Lincoln. The register was exhumed, and the governor's name closed the list of distinguished visitors.

"After a pleasant chat his Excellency said that he had just come from Lincoln, where a petition to President Cleveland for an unconditional pardon for the mayor and councilmen had been signed by himself, the supreme and district judges, state and county officials, members of the bar, and business men generally, which petition he would take pleasure in presenting to the President in the event the Supreme Court denied the writ on final hearing. He further said that he desired every member present to distinctly understand that he cordially endorsed the action of the council in the police judge case from the beginning of the investigation to the present time, and that he was particularly gratified that the councilmen were willing to go to prison in order to test the question of Federal judicial interference with municipal government. He believed they were right and that they would be sustained by the Supreme Court. A question of such vital importance should be speedily settled. Judicial tyranny, said he, was the worst form of tyranny, and he hoped it would never obtain in this country. Mayor Sawyer, on behalf of the councilmen, thanked the governor for his visit and the kindly expressions he had just uttered.

"Firm in the belief that the Federal Court had no jurisdiction to restrain them from proceeding in an orderly way to investigate charges of corruption against a city official, they listened to the evidence and declared the office vacant, and it was for this that they are in jail. 'Every great principle of government,' said he, 'has triumphed, if at all, at the cost of individual sacrifices, and if the good old democratic principle of home rule for which we stand shall, by this imprisonment, become triumphant then shall our incarceration not have been in vain.'

"Councilman Billingsley thanked the governor for his stand in this matter, and for the many expressions of approval given by the state officers, judges of the Supreme and District Court, and many other citizens of the state. 'We believe,' said he, 'we are right, and, standing for a great principle of home rule, the endorsement of our action by all good citizens of the state gives us great cheer and is a source of great satisfaction. We shall confidently await the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States to say that we are right.'

"No sooner had word that they were coming reached Lincoln than steps were taken to give them a fitting reception. The time was short, but the success of the event and large number who turned out demonstrated most clearly the position taken by the people of this city in this contest against the federal usurpation of local authority. The city officers, the police and fire departments were out in force, together with a crowd of citizens, the whole headed by the Knights of Pythias band, and about half past 9 o'clock they proceeded in a body to the B. & M. depot.

"When the train rolled in cheer after cheer rang out upon the night air. As many as could immediately mounted the car, and the meeting of old friends after years of separation could not have been more enthusiastic. The mayor and council were in charge of Deputy United States Marshal Allen, who, in pursuance of the order previously mentioned, immediately turned them over to





THE TEMPLE BUILDING, LINCOLN



the care of his deputy, Major Hastings. When the councilmen were finally permitted to make their way out of the car they were hardly allowed to touch the ground before they were grasped by as many enthusiastic citizens as could get hold of them. As Mayor Sawyer appeared he was grasped by several strong arms, lifted above the heads of the crowd, and carried to the head of the procession. When the vigor of the first meeting had slightly subsided the company moved toward the council chamber led by the band playing Boulanger's March. Arriving at this place the police and fire departments formed in lines on each side of the entrance way, and as each councilman passed their ranks he was greeted with hearty cheers."

Many of Lincoln's prominent citizens delivered enthusiastic addresses of welcome and encouraged the council in the belief that the day of their liberty was near at hand.

General Webster, being then called upon, made a few remarks welcoming the council to their accustomed places. The occasion, he said, was one of the best of evidences that the American people are capable of self-government. It is one of the fundamental principles of the Government under which we live that every municipality shall have the sole and uninterrupted administration of its own internal affairs, while to the General Government shall be relegated authority in affairs in which the whole country is involved, and between our own and other nations. The Federal Court, he believed, had no more power to interfere in the local affairs of this city than had a justice of the peace in the State of Iowa. The fine, whether large or small, was a matter of comparative insignificance; but the principle of self-government could not be overlooked. The speaker referred briefly to the manner in which the whole proceeding of the last few weeks in respect to the council of the city had been conducted. No force had been used and everything had been done in the most quiet and deliberate manner. It was not necessary, as has before been done in the history of the world, to tear down the Bastile, for in this land we depend upon constitutional rights. It might have been possible to secure the desired writ from the Supreme Court of this state, but for fear of a clash between state and Federal authority it was thought best to appeal to the highest judicial body in the land. He had, he said, no doubt whatever that the council would be discharged, and when they were the loyal citizens of this city would be out to celebrate the event with their biggest gun. At present the councilmen are still nominally prisoners. If the Supreme Court should determine that Judge Brewer had acted within his jurisdiction, it must be seen to that the representatives of this state in Congress promulgate an amendment to the laws. Such a condition of affairs must not be allowed to exist in a free country. In closing he extended to the members of the council each and every one the heartiest welcome, and assured them that if their fines were not remitted it would be seen to that not a cent thereof should come out of their pockets, and that in this matter of vindicating their rights they have the sympathy of every good citizen.

Responses were made by the mayor and different members of the council, and they repaired to their homes happy in the thought that they were for the time released from imprisonment.

The case had created great interest not only in Nebraska, but throughout the United States. It had been widely commented upon by the press throughout the country, and, with the exception of the Omaha Republican, all the newspapers, so far as we know, were a unit in defense of the position taken by the council.

On the 12th of December, 1887, the case was most ably argued before the Supreme Court by attorneys G. M. Lambertson and L. C. Burr, who had filed elaborate briefs therein.

It was expected that on the second Monday thereafter the court would hand down its opinion, and it was thought advisable that the defendants should have a representative present, that, in the event the opinion should affirm the decision of the lower court, an appeal might at once be had to the President.

The mayor was accordingly chosen for this purpose, and, armed with a petition for the pardon of the mayor and council, headed by His Excellency Governor Thayer, and signed by the state supreme judges, many district judges and state officers, and other prominent citizens, he proceeded to Washington, and was present on the coming in of the court on the day the decision was looked for. Case after case was handed down, but not the one in which he was particularly concerned.

As opinions are not given out by that tribunal, except on Mondays, and as there was no certainty that the case would be reached in a week from that time, he felt that he must return home with nothing accomplished. Before returning, however, it was his good fortune to meet Senators Manderson and Paddock, of Nebraska, who manifested great interest in the cause and suggested that they go with him to the President, that he might become acquainted with all the facts and circumstances.

The invitation was gladly accepted. He was introduced to President Cleveland by Senator Manderson, as the mayor of Lincoln, who was supposed to be in jail. At the same time both senators spoke a good word both for the mayor and his cause.

The President accorded them a hearty welcome, then turning to the mayor he said, "My attention has already been called to the case through the press, and I would be pleased to learn more of its nature and the particulars." The mayor then gave a brief history of the case in which the President seemed much interested, and inquired of the mayor when he expected a decision. He told him that it was expected that a decision would be handed down today, but that he had just come from the court room and none had been reached. He then ventured to tell the President his purpose in being in the city, that in case of an emergency he might make an appeal for executive clemency.

The Executive smiled and inquired as to the political complexion of the council. The mayor replied, nominally they are all republicans but two; practically they are all democratic, particularly upon the main question—the right of local self government.

"Well, for a fact," said he, "they do seem to be standing for a sound democratic principle—the doctrine of home rule. It is a principle that ought to be triumphant, and I have no doubt that it will."

This he said with a degree of earnestness that gave assurance that in an emergency an appeal might not be in vain.

The mayor returned home. All waited impatiently and most anxiously for

four successive Mondays to learn their fate. At length, on the 10th of January, 1888, the wires from Washington flashed the news that the council had won. The lower court had acted without jurisdiction, and all its acts were void.

Those desiring further knowledge of the subject are referred to the case entitled *In re Sawyer et al.*, 124 U. S. R., 402, which has become one of the causes celebres.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### THE STORY OF THE CRUSADE

At a public temperance meeting held at the Methodist Church, formerly the Methodist Protestant Church, in Lincoln, Nebraska, February 14, 1874, a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a Ladies' Temperance Society (which resulted in the crusade) to be held at the Methodist Episcopal Church, at the corner of M and Fourteenth streets, Rev. G. S. Alexander, pastor. At the hour of 2 P. M. a large audience assembled, comprised of the best citizens of Lincoln. Miss Garrison, a temperance lecturer, who chanced to visit the city at this time, was chosen chairman of the meeting. The meeting was opened with singing and prayer was offered by Reverend Davis, presiding elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was moved and carried that "we enter into a permanent organization, to promote the moral influence in our city and to further the cause of temperance so far as may be in our power." The following officers were elected: Mrs. C. B. Parker, president, Methodist; Mrs. Captain Scott, vice president, Presbyterian; Mate E. Hardy, recording secretary, Methodist; Mrs. J. A. Fairbanks, corresponding secretary, Universalist; Mrs. David Butler, treasurer, Christian. The following pledge was then unanimously adopted: "We mutually pledge ourselves to secrecy as to our plans of work and will stand by each other to the end." The meeting then adjourned to meet again on the following day at 9 A. M.

The first visit made by these loyal women was a notable occasion, notable because the treatment accorded them reflected the spirit in which their future campaign would be received by the liquor and vice elements of the city. The party, composed of Mrs. Elder Young, Mrs. G. S. Alexander, Mrs. David Butler, Mrs. Guthridge, Mrs. Doctor Burr, Mrs. G. W. C. T. Fairbanks, Mrs. M. Cedarholm, Mrs. J. W. Hartley, Mrs. J. Torry, Miss Elsie King, Mrs. Elder Davis, Mrs. Captain Scott, Mrs. Bent, Mrs. Colonel Crabb, Mrs. A. C. Ricketts, Mrs. E. M. Roberts, Mrs. D. Buckner, Mrs. H. W. Hardy, Miss M. A. Garrison, Miss Etta Lewis and Mrs. C. B. Parker, first visited the saloon owned by the firm of Bailey & Andrews, located on the north side of the public square. The saloon keepers had previously been informed that the women intended to hold a meeting in their place of business and had advertised the fact in the local papers, inviting all the lawless citizens of Lincoln, namely, the drunkards, bar-room loafers, gamblers, toughs and dissipated youths, to congregate upon this occasion and welcome the ladies. They were there in full force and were served with free drinks and cheap cigars, so that when the crusaders arrived they were confronted with a solid wall of stifling tobacco smoke and derisive faces. The



Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, LINCOLN





women were undaunted and forced their way amidst taunts and rough laughter to the center of the room, to a small space between two billiard tables. Here they held their meeting with prayer and song. A few hearts among the uncouth throng were probably touched by the scene, but the majority, encouraged by cheap whiskey, treated the efforts of the noble women as a joke.

The saloon of Councilman T. P. Quick was next visited, but the bartender, a gentleman named Whipple, refused them admittance. Accordingly the women held a meeting upon the sidewalk outside the front door. Ledwith & Menlove's saloon was then visited and here the band of women was again refused entrance. The meeting here was also held upon the outside walk. This ended the work of the first day and the women returned to their homes, discouraged over the treatment accorded them, but firmly resolved to work the harder in the face of the obstacles. There were nineteen saloons in Lincoln at that time.

The next day the women returned to Councilman Quick's saloon, where a large crowd awaited them. Quick himself accosted the women and grew very abusive. Also Mayor Silvers appeared and remonstrated with the women, asking them to refrain from further efforts in the direction of prohibition.

Prayer meetings were held daily in the various churches. The first public sentiment seemed to be against the crusaders, but when their tenacity of spirit became established newcomers to the ranks were plentiful, some two hundred joining within the first few days.

The women were received kindly at the saloon of Jerry Ford and the proprietor promised to quit the business later, which he finally did. At Graham & Fisher's saloon a good feeling was evident. The Detwiler place under the opera house welcomed the ladies, but asked them to make their visit as brief as possible. Schwaebold's place was in good order and the management acted in a gentlemanly way. The saloon of Tommy Noonan was visited and also that of R. N. Hodskins. One of the women was assaulted by a man in front of the latter place and he was promptly arrested.

The crusaders soon realized that one of the necessities for the young men of Lincoln was a public place where they could loaf and enjoy the same social feeling which they found in the saloons. At one of the regular meetings in the Methodist Episcopal Church, at 2 P. M., February 23, 1874, an organization was formed to be known as The Temperance Ladies' Reading Room Association of Lincoln. Rooms were procured and furnished within a very short time.

As the work progressed the time grew near when all the liquor licenses in the City of Lincoln would expire. Realizing that this was one chance to prevent their reissue, the women drew up petitions which were signed by the better part of the community and presented them to the council. The cause was hopeless, however, as the council was largely under the domination of the liquor interests. The petitions were not granted. Wide publicity was given to the work of the crusaders of Lincoln and appeals were made by both sides through the press in the effort to gain the preponderance of sentiment. Samuel Aughey, professor of chemistry and natural sciences, made an analysis of the most popular brands, of whiskey sold over the bar in Lincoln and found them to be very far from real, or good, liquor. The principal ingredients, as he found upon test, were strychnine, strontia, benzine, potash, Brazil wood, sugar of lead, logwood and cayenne pepper. The percentage of alcohol was very small. Four saloons were soon

compelled to close up business, but the others continued despite the adverse press notices given them and the growth of the temperance movement. Calls came into Lincoln from other parts of the state, asking that the crusaders extend their efforts to other communities and in some cases these appeals were heeded.

On April 1, 1874, a mass meeting was held at the opera house to discuss questions in favor of prohibition and to nominate men for the various political offices, which were to be decided very shortly at a general election. Election day came and passed very quietly, only one arrest being made. The women crusaders were present at the polls and did very effective work. The result of the vote showed that a majority of the temperance candidates had been successful, including the nominee for mayor. A jubilee meeting was held at the opera house the next evening, where speeches, songs and prayers formed the program.

However, the members of the council elected were all whiskey advocates; also the vote on the marshal had been a tie. The council called a special election and elected Mr. Cooper, one of the saloon supporters, to the office. This gave the anti-prohibition people a majority in public office and then, in turn, they held a jubilee meeting, not of the character of that held by the temperance people, though. A parade was held in the downtown streets; liquor was dispensed with a free hand; and the celebration rapidly assumed the character of an orgy.

Shortly after this the council made an ordinance designed to prohibit the women from holding their meetings. The substance of the ordinance was that no person nor persons could sing or pray on the sidewalks of the city. Mayor S. W. Little, a temperance man, vetoed this bill, but the council passed it by vote notwithstanding and thus it became a law. This restriction placed upon the crusaders worked a hardship, for, if they were refused admittance to the saloons, they had no place to hold their meetings, as the public thoroughfare was closed to them.

At a meeting of the temperance committee, attended by many of the citizens of Lincoln, C. B. Parker was ordered to prosecute Councilman Quick for riotous, disorderly and indecent conduct before the crusade ladies. The case was brought before Judge Foxworthy, who gave Quick a jury of twelve men. A. C. Ricketts and E. G. Adams were attorneys for the prosecution and E. E. Brown acted for the defendant. Although the evidence was clear and unmistakable the jury disagreed. Clearly this was a "hung" jury. They were discharged and a new trial ordered for June 1st.

In the meantime, on May 22, 1874, an ordinance was passed by the council requiring bonds in certain cases brought before the police judge. The mayor vetoed it, but it became a law nevertheless.

At the second trial Judge Foxworthy gave Quick a jury of six men. Again the evidence was introduced and Quick pronounced not guilty. The jury, on the judge's instructions, also found that there was no cause for action on the part of the plaintiff. Foxworthy ordered then that the costs, amounting to \$57.50, be paid by Parker himself. The latter refused to comply with this order. In an effort to straighten the difficulty and to come to some understanding Attorney Ricketts held a conference with Judge Foxworthy, but the latter, with much profanity and declarations that he wanted his "costs or blood," would not rescind the order. He even went so far as to issue a mittimus on July 9, 1874, for the arrest of C. B. Parker. Parker permitted himself to be led to jail, where many

comforts and small favors were showered upon him by the ladies and other supporters of his cause. At 11 P. M. he was released on a writ of habeas corpus issued by Chief Justice Lake of the Supreme Court and ordered to appear the next morning at 9 o'clock for trial.

At that hour attorneys Sessions and Ricketts, for the plaintiff, stated the facts of the case and read the mittimus. E. E. Brown, for the defendant, argued at some length immediately afterward. At the close of the argument the judge stated that it was not necessary to consume further time, that the whole procedure had been illegal. In his opinion Associate Justice Maxwell concurred. Accordingly the prisoner was discharged, and Judge Foxworthy failed to get his costs.

The crusade and the different movements resulting from it were absolutely necessary in Lincoln at this time. The city was not morally clean for many years in this period; corrupt city officials were common and with them came professions and trades which were undesirable to the better class of people. Stringent methods had to be adopted before the city succeeded in purging itself of these elements, a striking instance being the fight waged by the mayor and council in the late '80s and their subsequent arrest for their effort to oust a corrupt police judge. Lincoln has become a city noted for its moral excellence, perhaps better known in this respect than any city of size in the country. The victory has been the result of a hard fight on the part of the better people, who desired better things for the community and the ostracism of the undersirable class of people.

## CHAPTER XXVII

### THE RAILROADS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

When one contemplates the many lines of steel railroad which cross Lancaster County in every direction, the fact that fifty years ago there was not a rail laid within the present boundaries of the county causes one to marvel at the progress of which man is capable. Lincoln at the present time is equally well equipped with railroads as any city in the Middle West. The citizens of the county have always aided the railroad corporations to construct the roads through this territory because they realized the economic benefit which would result from close railroad connection with other points in the country. The amount of shipping, both in and out of the city, depends in great measure upon the railroad facilities and, as Lincoln has quick access to trade in every direction, the advantage has brought about a corresponding increase in every line of business.

The Legislature of 1869 started by appropriating 2,000 acres of land to each mile of railroad constructed within the state in two years. Four roads were begun accordingly. The first was the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad which started from Plattsmouth; the second was the Atchison and Nebraska from Atchison, Kansas; the third, the Midland Pacific from Nebraska City; and the fourth the Omaha and Southwestern, from Omaha. Later all of these roads were consolidated under one system. The Burlington and Missouri River road was given bonds to the extent of \$50,000.00 on the condition that they would build their road through the county. Then the Atchison and Topeka was voted county bonds to the amount of \$120,000.00 and the Midland Pacific was given a bonus of \$150,000.00. The latter road, on the strength of the large amount voted them, agreed to locate their car shops in Lincoln, but never fulfilled it. The road was built, though, as far as York and the county was greatly benefited.

In 1879 the citizens of the city and county gave the Lincoln and Northwestern Railroad Company \$25,000.00 in bonds for the start of the line to Columbus. No sooner had this line been started than the Union Pacific Railroad Company extended a road from Valparaiso in a southerly direction until Beatrice was reached. Between 1876 and 1878 the Burlington and Missouri River Company began a policy of extension which rapidly made it the greatest system in the state. The Nebraska railway was leased and several branches promoted. Among the first of these was the line to Hastings, now a part of the Denver route. The Lincoln and Northwestern Railroad was constructed from Lincoln to Columbus in 1879 and in the following year was taken over by the Burlington and Missouri River. The Missouri Pacific constructed a line from Weeping Water to Lincoln in 1886, after receiving from the latter city the sum of



LINCOLN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BUILDING



\$70,000.00. A few months later the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad was completed from Lincoln to Fremont, receiving a sum amounting to \$50,000.00 from Lincoln.

In brief the roads which run into Lincoln are as follows, with the date of their completion and the miles from their starting point to this city. The Nebraska Railway was completed June 1, 1871 from Nebraska City to Lincoln, a distance of 58 miles. The Atchison and Nebraska Railroad was completed September 1, 1872, from Atchison, Kansas, to Lincoln, 143 miles. The Lincoln and Northwestern constructed their line from Lincoln to Columbus completely by May 18, 1880, covering 73 miles. The Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad commenced at Fremont on October 25, 1886, and finished through to Lincoln, taking in Wahoo, Saunders County. The Missouri Pacific was completed from Lincoln Junction, a point near Weeping Water, to Lincoln on August 25, 1886. The Midland Pacific was finished to Lincoln in April, 1871, and was afterwards sold to the Burlington road. The Union Pacific from Valley to Lincoln, 58 miles, was finished in 1877, and from Lincoln to Beatrice, 38 miles, in 1884. On July 13, 1892, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway was extended from the Missouri River to Lincoln, a distance of 57 miles, and during the same year or next was completed from Lincoln to Belleville, Kansas, there connecting with the main line running to Denver, Colorado. On May 7, 1893, the Rock Island depot in Lincoln was opened. The Burlington and Missouri River depot at Lincoln was completed August 6, 1881, at a cost of \$125,000.00. The building is still used by the Burlington Road and has only been remodeled on the interior.

The Morton History of Nebraska states that in the Commonwealth of November 23, 1867, notice is given that a railroad meeting in Lincoln "the first symptoms of Burlington dominance appeared." Also that Elder Miller thought "the only show for the people of this county is to connect their interests with the Burlington and Missouri Road." Resolutions were passed that the county issue \$100,000.00 bonds for stock to that amount in the first road that is completed to Lincoln.

From the same source the statement is given that in the Nebraska State Journal of May 24, 1869, there is an account of the election in which Lancaster County voted to issue \$50,000.00 in twenty year bonds, ten per cent, to the Burlington and Missouri River Road, the same company to have trains running from the Missouri River to Lincoln by September 30, 1870. Also voted on the question of rescinding proposition of November 3, 1868, for \$100,000.00 to the first railroad to be completed to Lincoln.

In June, 1869, the citizens assisted in breaking ground for the Burlington and Missouri River Road at the "fill" in Salt Creek bottoms. A procession was formed on Market Square in Lincoln early in the afternoon, headed by David Butler, Thomas P. Kennard and John Gillespie, also Mr. Thielson, chief engineer of the Burlington and Missouri River. At the spot of breaking ground a prayer was offered by H. T. Davis. Then Governor Butler turned the first spadeful of earth, followed by Kennard and Thielson.

The State Journal in January, 1870, advertised 200,000 acres of Burlington and Missouri River lands in Saunders, Cass and Lancaster counties. Terms were offered as follows: ten years time, interest at six per cent in advance for

two years, the principal in nine annual installments. On two years' time the land might be obtained at twenty per cent less than the ten year price.

In April, 1870, the Burlington and Missouri River Road closed a contract for the location of a depot. The citizens of Lincoln pledged \$5,000.00 to obtain the right of way through the west part of town and the railroad company agreed to locate their depot on grounds sold them by the state commissioners for that purpose in the bottom between O and Q streets, west of Eighth.

By this time, 1870, the people of Lincoln began to appreciate the luxury of railroad travel. Hitherto stage journeys were a necessity to the nearest point of railroad connection. However, the coming of railroads did not abolish the existence of stages, for as late as August, 1870, the Kansas and Nebraska Stage Company operated stages from Lincoln. A stage left Lincoln every morning for Nebraska City; three time a week for Beatrice, Tecumseh, Pawnee City, Albany and Marysville, Kansas; every Monday for Camden and McFadden's; and every Friday for Seward and Ulysses.

The five trunk line railways now entering Lincoln have eighteen diverging lines, which bring the city into communication with a vast trade territory and give distributing facilities which enable the citizens to maintain the highest selling power. Lincoln is nearer to 774 of the 914 railroad stations in Nebraska than any other commercial center. Fully eighty passenger trains leave Lincoln each day. Havelock is the center of the locomotive industry of the Burlington system and at Lakeview the same road has erected one of the largest and costliest gravity freight yards and roundhouses on its lines.







SOUTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET, HAVELOCK



NORTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET, HAVELOCK

## CHAPTER XXVIII

### LANCASTER COUNTY TOWNS

#### HAVELOCK

Located about four miles from the heart of the City of Lincoln is the Town of Havelock, the home of the Burlington Railroad shops and the center of a hustling industrial community. In the late '80s G. G. Smith, W. J. Johnson, O. Master and Dr. J. A. Scott came to the site of Havelock and each erected a building, built of frame and very small. One account has it that the first frame house in the village was built by Charles A. Holderness in 1891, but this seems to be a little late. The marriage of Nellie Holderness and Lester Gleason was the first in the town and the birth of their child was the first also. By 1892 the following buildings had been erected on the site: the Lancaster Block, the Walton Block, the Holliett House, the Dullenty House, "The Ark," the Headley Building and Arnett's Building in which the owner had a barber shop.

On May 6, 1893, the Town of Havelock was incorporated with the following first officers: Dr. C. F. Ballard, chairman, J. E. Hutchinson, Charles S. Sabenhagen, George Anderson, H. B. Kepner, board of trustees; Sam Hinkle, clerk; O. C. Smith, treasurer; C. M. Copp, attorney; and F. C. Perkins, marshal. The land on which the Town of Havelock is situated was given by the Lancaster Land Company to the Burlington Railroad for the location of the shops at this place. The town was named after Gen. John Havelock, of English army fame. Elder Miller formerly owned the land which was donated to the railroad. A. E. Loughlin was the head of the Burlington at the time of the land transfer, which deal comprised 200 acres.

In the '80s the little railroad station of the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad was moved from Denton, a mile east, to the spot where it now stands. Later it was decided to locate the repair and manufacturing shops of the western division of the railroad at this point, plans were drafted and a plat of the shops made, together with that of the proposed village. The first dirt was turned for the machine shop in June, 1890, an appropriation of \$275,000.00 having been voted by the road directors for that purpose. The shop, which was 400 by 130 feet, was completed in one year. On June 13, 1892, work was begun on a new shop. Later a blacksmith shop was constructed east of the former and in 1893 a boiler shop was put up. This was about all of the building at the shops until 1910 when the sum of \$2,000,000.00 was spent in new buildings. From forty workmen at the start the force has now grown to about eight hundred. The presence of the shops in the town has been the incentive to growth, until now it is the second largest town in the county. Most every

line of business is represented in Havelock to care for the needs of the army of workmen employed there. Half hour electric car service to the City of Lincoln is given.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Havelock was organized in 1900 by W. R. Johnson, president; G. G. Smith, vice president; H. K. Frantz, cashier; and A. W. Butler and Emil Berlet. These men became the first board of directors. In April, 1907, new owners took charge of the institution and the officers elected were: Fred Whittemore, president; J. A. Espegren, vice president; V. F. Hoffman, cashier; and F. R. Beebe, assistant cashier. The officers are the same at present, with the exception of E. Anderson, vice president, and M. Malone, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$15,000.00; the surplus \$88,000.00.

The First National Bank of Havelock was organized as the Citizens State Bank on May 18, 1909, with a capital of \$20,000.00, and occupying a small brick building on the south side of Main Street. Emil Berlet was the president; A. F. Ackerman, vice president; and F. R. Beebe, cashier. On May 9, 1910, the name was changed to the First National Bank, with a capital of \$25,000.00, with the same officers as before. The present officers are: J. H. Patterson, president; J. W. Hitchcock, vice president; E. E. Andrews, cashier; J. L. Biddlecom, assistant cashier. W. F. Ackerman, Charles Hall and E. I. Andrews complete the board of directors.

The Havelock Electric Light Company was incorporated May 6, 1907, by F. H. Wheeler, J. A. Espegren, C. F. Ballard, Cornelius Moran, H. M. Eaton and C. O. Johnson. The Havelock Gas Company was incorporated February 11, 1902, by V. F. Hoffman, Archie Adams, E. E. Schuler, C. L. Hempel, E. E. Anderson, F. B. Young, F. L. Sumpter, John Reenan and Fred Krochler.

The Havelock Post, an independent weekly, was established in 1913 and is published by Will C. Israel, with a circulation of 1,440. The Havelock Times, published by Dan Campbell, Jr., was established in 1890. The paper is independent democratic and has a circulation of 1,400.

A new feature of the Town of Havelock, which will be erected shortly, is the new \$35,000.00 high school building. The election held for the erection of this building carried in favor of the proposition by 348 to 82.

#### UNIVERSITY PLACE

The start of the Town of University Place was practically synonymous with the establishment of the Wesleyan Methodist University, an account of which is given elsewhere. The town was originally located upon university land. A partial list of the first settlers of the town is as follows: Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Simpson, 1889; Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Butler, 1890; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Thompson, 1890; Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Clifton, 1890; Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCartney, 1890; Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Hullinger, Mrs. Lulu Horne, Henry Lee, J. W. Wharton, 1890; Mrs. Nelson Taylor, 1890; Mayme Taylor Hursh, 1890; Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Powers, 1893; M. V. B. Turner, 1888; Rev. and Mrs. James Leonard, 1897; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hursey, 1891; S. D. Fitchie, 1889; H. Augusta Harris, 1874; H. M. Wineland, 1890; W. T. Good, 1892; E. E. Clifton, 1890;



HIGH SCHOOL, HAVELOCK



CATHOLIC CHURCH, HAVELOCK



VIEW IN HAVELOCK, SHOWING HAVELOCK CAR, ABOUT 1900



C. D. Rose, 1891; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Mosely, 1890; R. O. Castle, 1890; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gardner, 1894; Rev. J. R. Gettys, 1892; Loyd B. Gettys, 1893; Frances Gettys, 1896; A. Handsaker, 1889; Helen Handsaker, 1889; Dora B. Horne, 1892; Prof. and Mrs. F. A. Alabaster, 1893; C. L. Mitchell, 1892; Mrs. Anna Riggs, 1892; Mrs. G. A. Smith, 1890; Mary Alene Smith, 1890; Rude Daily, Jr., 1892; Alva Campbell, 1888. An old settlers' association was formed in University Place on April 27, 1916.

The First National Bank of University Place was organized May 12, 1905, with a capital of \$25,000.00. Charles G. Anderson was the first president; Dr. D. W. C. Huntington, vice president; E. S. Kirtland, cashier; M. E. Burke, assistant cashier. The present officers are: B. H. Schaberg, president; E. D. Currier, vice president; G. E. Currier, cashier; Ralph Currier, assistant cashier. E. J. Hainer, C. H. Roper and M. Weil complete the board of directors. The capital is \$40,000.00, the surplus \$10,000.00, and deposits over \$120,000.00.

The Citizens State Bank of University Place is an institution established in 1908, three years after the First National Bank. The officers of this bank are: E. E. Butler, president; J. S. Hole, vice president; C. E. Staley, cashier; and R. R. Ward, assistant cashier. The capital stock now is \$30,000.00; the surplus, \$2,300.00; and the deposits average over \$100,000.00. Both of the banks in University Place hold a well merited reputation with the people as being solid and strong financial institutions.

One of the largest business enterprises in University Place is the Clafin Printing Company, which was started by J. L. Clafin in 1904. In 1909 a stock company was formed and continued to the present day. Besides a regular job printing business, the company publishes a weekly paper called the News, the Union Worker which is the state paper for the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the university publications, and The Teacher. A singular feature of the Clafin Printing Company is that all of the stock is owned by the employes and owners of the plant.

The University Place Telephone Company was incorporated July 8, 1907.

The Windom Bank, now out of existence, was started on April 4, 1891, with \$25,000.00 capital stock. LeGrand M. Baldwin, George H. Clark and John C. Allen were the head of the enterprise.

#### BETHANY

The history of the Town of Bethany is coincident with the history of Cotner University, which place and university were started together and developed together. The history of this university, with sidelights upon the subject by Hon. J. Z. Briscoe, one who has given a greater part of his life for the interests of the school, is written in another part of this volume.

The First State Bank of Bethany was organized in 1905. The officers of the institution are: L. J. Dunn, president; C. W. Fuller, vice president; and T. Milo Keith, cashier. The bank carries a capital stock of \$10,000.00, a surplus of \$3,100.00; and the deposits average about \$60,000.00.

## COLLEGE VIEW

The opening of Union College near Lincoln provided the means and opportunity for the establishment of the Town of College View. Since the time of the founding of the school College View has had a fairly large growth. Most of the population is composed of members of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, although in recent years numbers of people have moved in here belonging to other churches and societies have been formed by them.

Besides being the home of Union College, College View has the Nebraska Sanitarium, which has been there for twenty years. All kinds of curable diseases are treated at the sanitarium, which employs a staff of sixty, including forty-five nurses. Many of the methods used at the Battle Creek sanitarium are in use here. At the head of the staff is Dr. J. D. Shively.

The Bank of College View was organized in the year 1906. James Schee is the president; J. H. Morrison, vice president; and S. J. Quantock, cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000.00; the surplus \$1,000.00; and the deposits amount to \$85,000.00. P. B. Quantock is the assistant cashier.

The public library at College View was provided for in 1914-15 by a gift of \$7,500.00 by Andrew Carnegie.

INTERNATIONAL BRANCH OF THE PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION,  
COLLEGE VIEW

The foreign work done by this publishing house was formerly done by the Review and Herald in Battle Creek, Michigan, but when their main office was burned in December, 1902, it was decided to move the German, Danish-Norwegian and Swedish papers to College View, in order to co-operate with the strong departments in these languages in Union College.

For a time the small college printing office endeavored to do the work, but as their facilities were inadequate, the International Publishing Association was organized in the fall of 1903. The General Conference issued a call for funds to establish this foreign printing plant, a collection being taken in all of the churches the first Sabbath in February, 1904. About three thousand dollars was thus secured, which was sufficient to purchase and set up a small building for that purpose, with a lot 78 by 150 feet in size. This original building had formerly been used as a store and formed the two-story part of the building now occupied. During the summer of 1904 a new cylinder press and other facilities were added, so that at the first annual meeting in September, 1904, the total value of the property and furnishings was about ten thousand dollars, nearly all being paid for.

The same year the institution purchased from the Review and Herald their entire stock of foreign books, tracts and pamphlets, for \$12,000.00, giving notes in payment for the same. As the burden of paying these notes and keeping up a stock of subscription books was heavier than the institution could well carry, the Pacific Press offered to take over the foreign subscription books for \$8,000.00. This was done and they assumed the payment of notes to the Review and Herald amounting to \$8,000.00. This step connected the Pacific Press in a definite and substantial way with the foreign publishing work, which had developed remark-





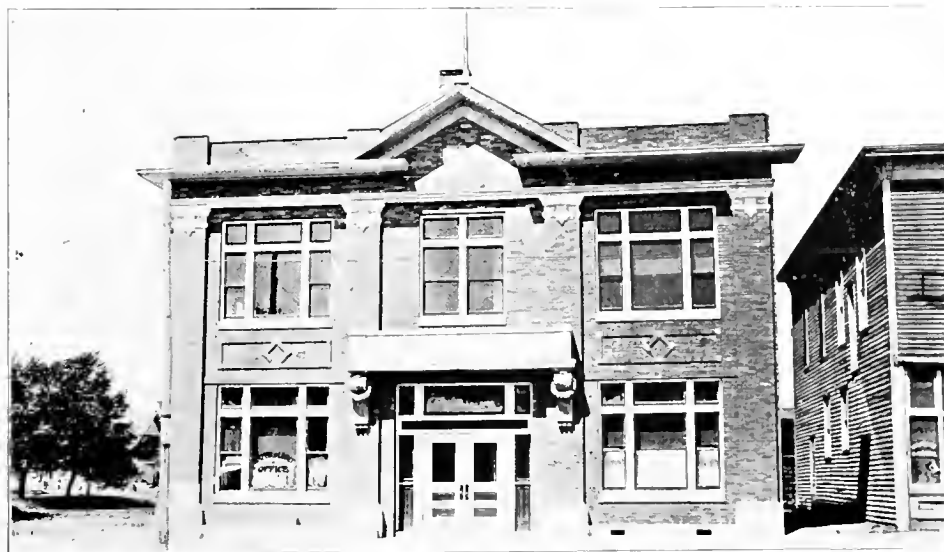
LOOKING NORTH ON WARREN AVENUE FROM ST. PAUL STREET,  
UNIVERSITY PLACE



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,  
UNIVERSITY PLACE



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
UNIVERSITY PLACE



CITY HALL, UNIVERSITY PLACE



ably since that time. This was a great relief to the International Publishing Association, and left with them the responsibility of publishing only the foreign papers, trade books, pamphlets and tracts.

The College View plant was considerably enlarged in the fall of 1907 by building a large addition to the first floor, making the entire building sixty-six by ninety-six feet in size. More room was thus provided for the type room, and the size of the press room was increased to give room for a new Miehle press which was purchased at this time. A large room was added for the bindery, which had been operated for a year in rented rooms. A steam heating plant was installed to take the place of the hot air furnace previously used. These improvements, and the linotype machine purchased in the spring of 1910, put the office in excellent shape for doing the work that was required.

In 1910 the publication of attractive quarterly magazines in German, Danish-Norwegian and Swedish was begun. A similar magazine in Russian is now being published, and they will be issued in other languages as the demand arises.

The bindery was provided with limited facilities for binding even the large subscription books in the various bindings, and the Pacific Press turned over the printing and binding of several good jobs of this kind, among which may be mentioned "Thoughts on Daniel and Revelation" in Danish and Swedish, and "Practical Guide to Health" in German.

In August, 1914, the International Board came to the conclusion that stronger and better work could be done by the institution if it should be taken over by one of the large English publishing houses, with a preference for the Pacific Press. A memorial was sent to the president of the North American Division Conference, requesting that the matter be given consideration at the council to convene in October. The council requested that the Pacific Press Publishing Association give favorable consideration to this transfer of the institution on the basis of an appraisal to be made by J. J. Ireland, the general conference auditor. The deal was satisfactorily arranged and the College View plant is now known as the International Branch of the Pacific Press Publishing Association.

#### BENNETT

On section ten, Nemaha Precinct, about seventeen miles east of Lincoln, is located the Town of Bennett, a thriving little community, representative of the better communities in the eastern part of Nebraska. The town site was formerly owned by William Roggenkamp and was laid out by him, in company with Joel N. Converse, and the plat filed for record July 29, 1871. The town was laid out at the time the Midland Pacific Railroad was brought through, and the new community took its name from one of the officials of the road, John Bennett. In the early days the Town of Bennett won considerable reputation on account of the quarries adjacent to the village. The stone strata proved in later years, however, to be of insufficient extent to promote a growing business. Nemaha Branch, a creek a few miles below town, was at one time exploited on account of water power derived therefrom and the strip of timber which bordered its edge supplied plenty of box elder, ash, red and white elm, oak and walnut for building purposes, quite an advantage to the early settlers of the community. Bennett early became noted as an agricultural station, in 1881 about three hundred cars

of grain having been shipped from the station here. The first elevator was the Nebraska City Elevator Company's plant, built in 1875, and having a capacity of about twenty thousand bushels. George Eggleston also operated a small elevator at an early day. The flouring mill of D. H. Harris was erected by A. L. Strang & Company in 1875-6 and bought by Harris in 1881; it had a capacity of 200 bushels of wheat and 250 bushels of corn per day, and had three runs of stone, two for wheat and one for corn. The plant was known as the Altamaha Mills. The first lumber yard in Bennett was operated by J. E. Vanderlip. Mr. A. Gribbling was the first harness and saddlery man in Bennett, moving to the town in 1872, having settled four years previously about four miles north of the town. He was a native of New York.

Dr. Stephen A. Mechem, a native of New York State, was one of the first settlers in the vicinity of Bennett, locating on the Nemaha Branch in 1858, accompanied by his family in a wagon. He was obliged to do his milling at Coonville on Plum Creek, the round trip requiring about two weeks' time. He had to build bridges going and frequently had to rebuild them upon his return trip. He also made some little money by gathering salt along Salt Creek, hauling it to Iowa with cattle, and there selling it. His claim consisted of 360 acres. He hired fifty acres of this broken, at a cost of \$5 per acre. His medical knowledge was soon called into use, and he was probably the first practitioner in what was known as Lincoln district. He also secured the first school in that vicinity. Another of the first settlers of the precinct was James N. Miner, who came in 1869, a native of Ohio, and a veteran of the war. Dr. E. T. Piper was another pioneer physician of the county, settling in Stockton Precinct in 1868 and opened a farm. At the time he was the only physician between Lincoln and Nebraska City and his services were constantly in demand.

William Roggenkamp was born in Prussia in 1832 and crossed to the States when he was in his nineteenth year. After living in New Jersey, Indiana, and Illinois, he came to Nebraska, arriving at Nebraska City by steamboat. This was in the spring of 1860. He left his family there and walked out to where Bennett is now located. His first body of land consisted of 120 acres, which he afterwards increased greatly. His first residence was a very small log house, the material for which he hauled from Nebraska City. Afterwards he erected a large log house and it was destroyed by fire in 1871; then he built a new home, far better than the former ones.

James G. Southwick erected, at that time, the most imposing business house in Bennett, in 1878. Samuel Tilton and J. A. Whitlock were other prominent men in the precinct who came at an early day.

Thomas Elrod erected the first house in the town in 1871. It was used both as a dwelling and a store. During the next year H. R. Kemper built a hotel, which was first run by Thomas Price. During the year 1872, also, Walter Scott started a store.

Bennett was incorporated as a town on December 1, 1881. The first town board consisted of James G. Southwick, F. A. Sidles, J. E. Vanderlip, A. Gribbling and J. P. Bratt. W. K. Purvis was the town clerk.

The Citizens Bank of Bennett was organized in 1886, being incorporated on April 3d of that year by J. E. Vanderlip, G. W. Eggleston, C. W. Pierce, J. H. McClay, W. F. Torbitt, W. M. Seely, M. B. Deck and T. J. Pierson, with a



OLD METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BENNET

First church built in Bennet. Erected in 1880; demolished in 1914 to make way for present church



capital stock of \$50,000.00. The bank is still in existence and is officered by the following at the present day: G. W. Eggleston, president; John P. Bratt, vice president; H. H. Bratt, cashier; Charles P. Bratt, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$25,000.00; the surplus, \$13,000.00; and the deposits amount to \$213,000.00.

The Farmers Bank was organized in 1906 and has had a steady growth since that date. Elmer W. Jones is the president of this institution; O. R. Springer is the vice president; and Harry Honnor is the cashier. The Farmers Bank carries a capital stock of \$12,000.00, a surplus of \$3,000.00 and deposits amounting to \$125,000.00.

The Bank of Bennett was an institution which was started in June, 1891, with a capital stock of \$50,000.00, but which later passed out of existence.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Bennett was organized in the spring of 1879. The first church building was erected the next year, costing \$1,500.00. The church now has a strong membership, a commodious house of worship, and is one of the leading churches in the township. The Danish Lutheran Church was organized in the late '70s. The Norwegian Lutheran Church was organized in December, 1874, with the following members: T. Hanson, W. Nelson, J. C. Johnson, Ole Nelson, Henry Bolt, L. Rasperson, O. Anderson, H. Peterson, C. Olson, S. Monk, J. Michilson, and others. The first services were held in a school house in 1878, Rev. C. Jansen of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in charge. After a few years the Danish membership withdrew and formed a church of their own, mentioned above, whereupon the Norwegian church was reorganized. The Church of Christ of Bennett was first incorporated in July, 1883, by R. N. Stall, C. B. Camp, John and Henry Diehl. It was reincorporated in June, 1884, by J. Z. Briscoe, Charles B. Camp, Branson J. Smith, R. N. Stall, T. L. Turner, Julia Stall, Elizabeth Harper, Mary M. Barnes, John, William S., Henry G., Elizabeth and Charles Diehl.

The Bennett Gas Company was incorporated October 28, 1910 by A. W. Dorland, J. B. Varney and Joseph Lingle.

The Bennett Sun, a weekly local publication, was established in 1911. J. H. Bratt is the editor. The circulation is about two hundred and fifty.

#### WAVERLY

The Town of Waverly is located on section 16, Waverly Precinct, and is about twelve miles northeast of Lincoln. The early settlement of this town dates back to a few years before the completion of the B. & M. Railroad through the precinct in 1871. John S. Green, the first permanent settler, located here in 1869. In 1874 he constructed a store and John Berg started a blacksmith shop soon afterwards. Mr. Berg was the second settler in Waverly, and James Schofield came next, the latter becoming one of the most prominent citizens. Walker and Schofield opened the first general store in the town. A. Cook and son were also early comers to the community in the spring of 1874; they established a lumber yard. The postoffice of Waverly was started in 1871, with John S. Green the first postmaster.

There were three grist mills near the town in the early '80s. One of them was located  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of town and was built by John Hellman, and derived

its water power from Salt Creek. On Rock Creek, northeast of Waverly, Samuel Atkinson had a mill, also D. L. Bundy. The Cook elevator had a capacity of 12,000 bushels. The Town of Waverly was laid out by D. N. and Sophia Smith and the survey made by M. Willsie. The plat was filed for record on October 8, 1870.

The Bank of Waverly was started in 1885 and incorporated in 1890 by N. H. Meeker and J. T. Beale. The bank has survived the several storms which have wrecked other banks of the state in the past years and is still in existence, doing a strong business and enjoying a great popularity. J. R. M. Beale is the president of the institution and H. S. Beale is the cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,500; and the deposits, \$75,000. The Lancaster County Bank at Waverly is a comparatively new institution, but has been singularly successful. The officers are: G. R. Buckner, president; George H. Danforth, vice president; and R. L. Tiger, cashier. The capital is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,500; and the deposits, \$130,000. The bank was started in 1907.

The Congregational Church of Waverly was first incorporated December 9, 1878, by A. McMurray, David Hedges, S. Rogers, Charles M. Headrick, Jacob B. Linninger. The church was reincorporated February 10, 1881, by Rev. E. Cressman and wife, E. O. Wart, mother and wife, Marion McMurray, William McMurray, Albert McMurray and wife, David Hedges, John Reitz, Jennie Irwin, Ella Rogers, Eva Rogers, William Mocroft, Herbert Mocroft, E. P. Fruit, Mary Mocroft, Edwin Post and wife, Charles Post, Ida P., Delia P., J. G. E., Henry E., and Mrs. James Walker. The Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was formed by Prof. Samuel Aughey of Lincoln and Reverend Kuhlmann, the latter a missionary preacher. The former held religious services in Waverly for a number of years, but it was not until July, 1880, that a regular pastor was engaged in the person of Rev. M. L. Melick. The first church building was completed in 1881. Jonathan, Samuel, and David Reitz, Jeremiah Heilman and Franklin Fisher were among the original members. The Methodist Episcopal Church was incorporated December 4, 1882. It was organized August 29, 1882, at a quarterly conference of the Waverly charge. William Hotaling was elected secretary and Harry Wells, W. H. Worley, M. B. Bainbridge, Phipps Opp and Henry Sudduth, trustees. The Church of Christ, Scientist, was organized September 9, 1902, at the residence of T. J. Beale.

There is one newspaper, published at Lincoln by the Interstate Company, called the Watchman, which devotes a small space to the Waverly interests.

The first hotel in the town was constructed in 1874 at a cost of \$1,600.

#### FIRTH

The Town of Firth is located on section 35, South Pass Precinct, near the headwaters of the Nemaha River. The town was laid out by the railroad and the plat filed for record July 28, 1873. The name was given in honor of Superintendent Firth of the A. & N. Railroad. In the early '80s Firth was the third largest grain market on the railroad, between Atchison, Kan., and Lincoln, Neb., shipping about seven hundred cars of grain and stock in 1881.

Firth was organized as a village in 1879. The first chairman of the board of trustees was G. G. Beams, the clerk at the same time being W. H. Moore. Others



on the board were: C. Bailey, F. S. Fielding, Dr. G. A. Pogue, and Robert Hay. C. F. Fleckinger was the treasurer of the village. These men were among the most prominent of the citizens at that time.

Early in her existence Firth had a number of successful stores, two elevators, a steam grist mill and two hotels. One elevator was operated by Worl & Beams and Schmidt Brothers, the grist mill by Kilbourne & Cooper. The Firth Mills were completed in September, 1881, by the Kilbourne Brothers. The brand of flour made by the mill was known as Golden Crown.

The Kent House, the first hotel in Firth, was erected by H. W. Gable in 1873-74. Another hotel was constructed in 1879 and was owned by Mrs. Kate Morrison.

The Firth Bank was organized in August, 1891, with \$40,000 capital stock. The principal men in the organization were: E. R. Spencer, Charles F. Collins, J. J. Harms, G. O. Adams, E. Harms, William Kramer, S. H. Heckman, H. Southblin and H. J. Pebmuke. The present officers are: H. H. Kramer, president; H. Sachleben, vice president; and C. E. Groves, cashier. The present capital stock of the bank is \$15,000; the surplus, \$5,000; and the deposits amount to \$175,000.

The Presbyterian Church of Firth was organized in 1881 by Rev. E. M. Lewis of Lincoln, who later became its pastor. The first church building of this society was erected in 1881, costing the sum of \$2,000. The First Reformed Church was organized in July, 1890, prominent among the early members being: H. J. Leselle, D. Shutte, G. J. TeKolste, J. W. Tempulzen, D. DeBoer, D. Wessink, G. W. Tempulzen and J. Wessink. At a meeting held March 16, 1899, the Church of Christ was organized. Among the early members of this society were: James M. Murphy, W. F. Deitz, Edward Rogers, Jacob Groves, Edward D. Champion.

The first newspaper in Firth was the Times, the first number appearing December 3, 1880; it was founded and published by H. Snyder. This paper has passed away and in 1915 the publication of the Advocate was begun by J. H. Curry. The sheet is independent in politics and is issued weekly.

#### ROCA

The name Roca implies "founded upon a rock." In the matter of stability and growth, the little town has merited well its name. The town was laid out by W. E. and E. G. Keys, John H. and Eliza Meyer, in 1876. The site of the town was chosen in 1872, located on the farms of the above named people. It was organized as a village in 1876.

Roca was early known as the home of good limestone quarries, in the year 1881 over sixteen hundred carloads of stone being shipped from the town. Also as a grain and live stock shipping point the town owes its early popularity.

The Bank of Roca was organized and opened for business in the year 1907. H. F. Warner is the president; W. H. Meyer, vice president; and Charles Darrow, cashier. The capital stock is \$5,000, and the surplus \$1,500. Although small, the institution is in the center of a prosperous community and the probabilities are that it will become one of the leading banks among those of the smaller towns of Lancaster County.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Roca was organized in 1876 and incor-

porated in May, 1878, by Rev. A. G. White, Joseph Southwick, Benjamin Allen, Henry Spellman, Moses Mitten, B. Harnley, D. W. Ellis, G. O. Adams and Stephen Feather. There is also a Lutheran Church in the Town of Roca.

#### HICKMAN

On section 33, Saltillo Precinct, is the Town of Hickman. Hickman was laid out by C. H. Heckman and the plat filed for record on September 20, 1872. At first the Town of Hickman progressed very slowly, but in recent years it has been developing rapidly and now ranks with the larger towns of the county.

The Bank of Hickman was started in 1891, among the men back of it being J. H. Catron, Sr., M. E. Catron, E. K. Bradley, L. Enycart and George W. Hawke. The first capital stock was \$20,000. The present officers are: J. H. Catron, president; F. M. Stapleton, vice president and cashier; John Slote, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$20,000; the surplus, \$6,000; and the deposits average \$100,000. The First State Bank of Hickman was organized in 1913. S. H. Heckman is the president; Henry Diesel, vice president; and C. H. Heckman, cashier. The capital is \$15,000; \$2,000 surplus; and \$80,000 in deposits. The fact that the Bank of Hickman has had a rapid growth and steady life through the financial difficulties of past years, and that recently a new bank was organized, testifies well as to the stability and virility of the Town of Hickman.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Hickman was organized in 1883 and the German Presbyterian Church in 1902.

The Hickman Telephone Company was incorporated in July, 1905, by Adam Bruedle, J. F. Judah, C. L. Morrison, Henry Diesel, A. E. Van Burg, H. B. Sinkler, R. H. Sawyer, Charles H. Heufel and Aug. Schmutte.

The newspaper of the town, the Enterprise, was started in 1886 by a Mr. Blizzard, and remarkable as it may seem, is still being published as an independent weekly by Cyrus Black, with a circulation of 700.

#### OTHER LANCASTER COUNTY TOWNS

The small Village of Cheney is located on section 26, in Grant Precinct, located on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. The townsite was platted by Joel Converse in the year 1874 and the plat filed for record at the county seat on July 13th of the same year. The Town of Cheney has grown to be a good agricultural business community and is popular with the farmers of the vicinity. The Bank of Cheney is an institution started in the latter part of 1909 with a capital stock of \$10,000. Charles Marshall, J. L. Marshall, J. A. Harlan, W. G. Bullock, John T. Marshall and R. W. Marshall were interested in the inception of this bank. The present officers are: Charles Marshall, president; John T. Marshall, vice president; W. G. Bullock, cashier. The capital remains at \$10,000; the surplus is \$2,300; and the deposits are \$40,000. The Cheney Telephone Company was incorporated in February, 1912, by J. W. Rooney, John O'Brien, H. D. Gove, Roy Vanderslice, and C. E. Cummings. Baptist, Catholic and United Brethren churches are located in Cheney and are all in a prosperous condition with good memberships.

The Town of Davey is located on section 30, Rock Creek Precinct. The

town was started and platted by the Western Town & Lot Company and the plat filed for record October 14, 1886. The Farmers State Bank of Davey was organized in 1903. H. Johnson is the president of the institution; L. Hanson is the vice president; J. M. Hanson is the cashier; and Peter Nelson, assistant cashier. The capital stock of the bank is \$8,000; the surplus, \$6,000; and the deposits, \$95,000. One newspaper, the Mirror, which is published by the Interstate Company of Lincoln, contains items of local interest. There are two churches in the town, the Catholic and Danish Lutheran. In 1893 a Swedish M. E. Church was started.

Denton is a small community situated on section 22, Denton Precinct. Denton was laid out by D. N. and Sophia Smith and surveyed by M. Willsie. The plat was filed for record on August 1, 1871. The town is located upon the Burlington Railroad. The Denton State Bank was organized in 1906. The bank is officered by W. M. Rowland, president; Mary Rowland, vice president; and C. M. Rowland, cashier. The capital stock carried by the bank is \$10,000; the surplus, \$3,000; and the deposits average about \$60,000. The Denton Record, a weekly newspaper, is published by the Interstate Company of Lincoln. Catholic and Methodist Episcopal churches care for the religious needs of the people of Denton.

The thriving little Town of Hallam is located on sections 30 and 31 of Buda Precinct. The town plat was laid out by the Kansas Town and Land Company and the plat recorded December 29, 1892. The town is a station upon the Burlington System and is quite a shipping point for the neighboring precincts. The Hallam Bank was organized in 1898 by a company of local men. Gerhard Rippen is the president of the bank at the present time; F. T. Carsten is the vice president; and C. F. Burk is the cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,000; and the deposits average nearly \$100,000. On April 24, 1893, in the Hallam Schoolhouse there was organized the German Evangelical Congregational Church. It was incorporated by Albert Gerdes, Peter Gansemer and P. Van Hove. The Farmers & Hallam Telephone Exchange was started in April, 1911, by C. F. Burk, Andrew Walker, Chris Keller and G. H. Nannen. Another telephone company had previously been organized in 1906, known as the Star Telephone Company.

Holland is a typical Dutch town located on section 3, South Pass Precinct, located on the Burlington Road. The Reformed Church of Holland was first incorporated in September, 1886, by the following: Gert Van Engen, Hendrick Van Beek, Lubbert Lokhorst, Hendrik de Vries, Quirinus Huyser, Gerrit van der Beek, Hendrik Jan Lubbers, Jan Willem Lecferdink, Hendrik Jan Wubhels, and Lubbert Boeve. The church was reincorporated in February, 1890, by Peter Poort, H. J. Te Brinke, A. Kommers, E. Nota, A. Bykert, John Kallemeyr, Martin Klein, Jacob Kallemeyr, Bertain Kallemeyr, John Van Enger, Dick Kallemeyr, Martin Kallemeyr and Jacob Der Hollander. This is the only church in the town; there are no banks or newspapers.

Kramer is located on section 9, Olive Branch Precinct, and was laid out by L. H. Wilcox and the plat filed for record March 3, 1888. It is located on the Missouri Pacific Railroad. Two churches, the German Lutheran and the Methodist, are located here.

Malcolm is situated on section 21, Elk Precinct, on the Burlington. It was

laid out by M. A. and Emma Showers and the plat filed for record on October 13, 1877. The Malcolm State Bank was organized in 1906 and is now managed by the following officers: A. Otterman, president; W. E. Behring, vice president; L. E. Cozad, cashier; W. R. Ehlers, assistant cashier. The Malcolm bank has a capital stock of \$7,500; a surplus of \$3,700; and deposits of \$75,000 on the average. The Malcolm Methodist Episcopal Church was incorporated and started in August, 1884, by Rev. A. M. Ogborn, J. C. Mahan, J. W. Miller, J. W. Smith, William Weyant, John Carpenter, and Chris Roahrer. The Malcolm Messenger, a local paper, is published by the Interstate Company of Lincoln.

The Town of Emerald is located on section 23, Middle Creek Precinct, located upon the Burlington Railroad. The Emerald State Bank was started in 1915, incorporated May 14th, by J. W. Daily, E. R. Lippe, C. H. Becker, C. F. Hoppman, H. C. W. Jarms, O. Klöckner, A. C. Heydon and C. E. Shafer. The First Baptist Church was started in August, 1892, by Rev. Chapman, F. Mayes, E. S. Davison and G. M. Yales. The Methodist Church was organized about the same time. Both of these societies are flourishing and are well attended by people from the town and the surrounding country.

Martel is a hustling little village in Middle Creek Precinct. The Martel State Bank was started in 1905. R. E. Moore is the president; John H. Moore, vice president; W. H. Moore, cashier; and J. Carl Sittler, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,000; and the deposits, \$70,000. One church, the Union Church, was started in 1894 and a house of worship erected then. The Martel Leader, a weekly sheet, is published by the Interstate Company of Lincoln.

The Town of Panama is located on section 3, Panama Precinct, and was located in the late '70s. The Bank of Panama was organized in July, 1891, by Louis Hobel, Othniel Howe, Charles Marshall, John T. Marshall, Samuel Tilton, John Forrest, Ruben Coun, John Robertson, Thomas J. Dickson, James Dickson and Robert G. Dickson. Charles Marshall is the president of the bank; Samuel Tilton, vice president; and John T. Marshall, cashier. The capital stock of the bank is \$10,000; the surplus, \$3,700; and the deposits, \$135,000. Three churches, Christian, Presbyterian and United Brethren. The Panama Record is published by the Atlas Company of Lincoln.

Prairie Home on section 12, Stevens Creek Precinct, was laid out by Charles and Betsey Harman and Phoebe Fox. The plat was filed for record February 21, 1891. The Farmers Bank of Prairie Home was established in 1905. J. D. Dasenbrock is the president; Ellen Westland is the vice president; and J. B. Dasenbrock, cashier. The bank has a capital stock of \$7,000; a surplus of \$500; and deposits of \$25,000. The Methodist Episcopal is the only church society in the village.

Princeton was laid out by James and Harriett Kilburn, John and Mary Biron and Sevilla Peter, upon farms owned by them. The survey was made by W. S. King and the plat filed for record July 8, 1886. The community is located upon the Union Pacific Railroad. The Christian Reformed Church was started in 1896 by a number of residents; besides this society there now exists a Methodist Episcopal Church.

In Oak Precinct, section 6, is the Town of Raymond, on the Union Pacific

Railroad. The town was laid out by T. P. and Lioina E. Kennard and surveyed by J. P. Walton. The plat was filed at the county seat on April 19, 1880. The Bank of Raymond was started in 1901 and is now officered by the following: W. J. Weller, president; H. H. Forke, vice president; J. C. Denser, Jr., cashier; B. B. Jennings, assistant cashier. The capital stock is \$12,000; the surplus, \$3,200; and the deposits, \$80,000. The Presbyterian Church was organized and incorporated in February, 1881, by John D. Mulvane, Willard Kinyon and L. L. Larimer. The Methodist Episcopal Church had its beginning in 1911, the incorporation being made by W. J. Weller, H. H. Forke, H. S. Weaver, J. M. Nord, T. W. Van Tuyl, J. C. Denser, Jr., S. Yonker, J. W. Bennett and D. F. White. A Methodist society existed here years before, but the above date is the first record of incorporation. The Raymond Review, weekly, is published by the Interstate Company of Lincoln.

Saltillo is a station on the Burlington, located on section 36, Yankee Hill Precinct, and section 31, Grant Precinct. The town was laid out in September, 1872.

The Town of Sprague is located upon sections 27 and 28, Middle Creek Precinct, and was laid out by L. H. Wilcox, the plat being filed for record May 3, 1888. The Bank of Sprague was started in 1910. Following are the present officers: Albert Egger, president; M. Miles, vice president; Frank F. Miles, cashier; William Krull, assistant cashier. The capital is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,000; and the deposits, \$35,000. The Sprague Booster, a weekly paper, is issued from the Atlas Company of Lincoln. The Presbyterian Church of Sprague was incorporated and organized July 23, 1893, by John W. Taylor, James Andrei, Henry F. Mitchell, William H. Finley, Allen P. Ferguson, M. O. and Chauncey F. Diehl, and Thomas L. Sexton.

Walton is a hamlet located on section 31, Stevens Creek Precinct. The Farmers and Merchants Bank of this place was organized in 1909. T. C. Wilson is president; H. W. Mayer, vice president; and L. A. Berge, cashier. The capital stock is \$10,000; the surplus, \$2,500; and the deposits about \$70,000. Walton is located upon the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Agnew, on section 12, West Oak Precinct, was laid out by Eliza States and the plat filed May 2, 1889.

Jamaica, on section 36, Yankee Hill Precinct, was platted in 1885.

Woodlawn, on section 31, Oak Precinct, was laid out by N. B. Kendall and Charles D. Smith and the plat filed March 29, 1878. In 1902 the town sprang into momentary notoriety by the robbery of the Burlington train near here, \$35,000 being taken by the bandits.

Other stations in the county, which have no postoffice, nor any community of size, are: Arbor, Berks, Burnham, Cobb, Hawthorne, Pella and Rokeby.

## CHAPTER XXIX

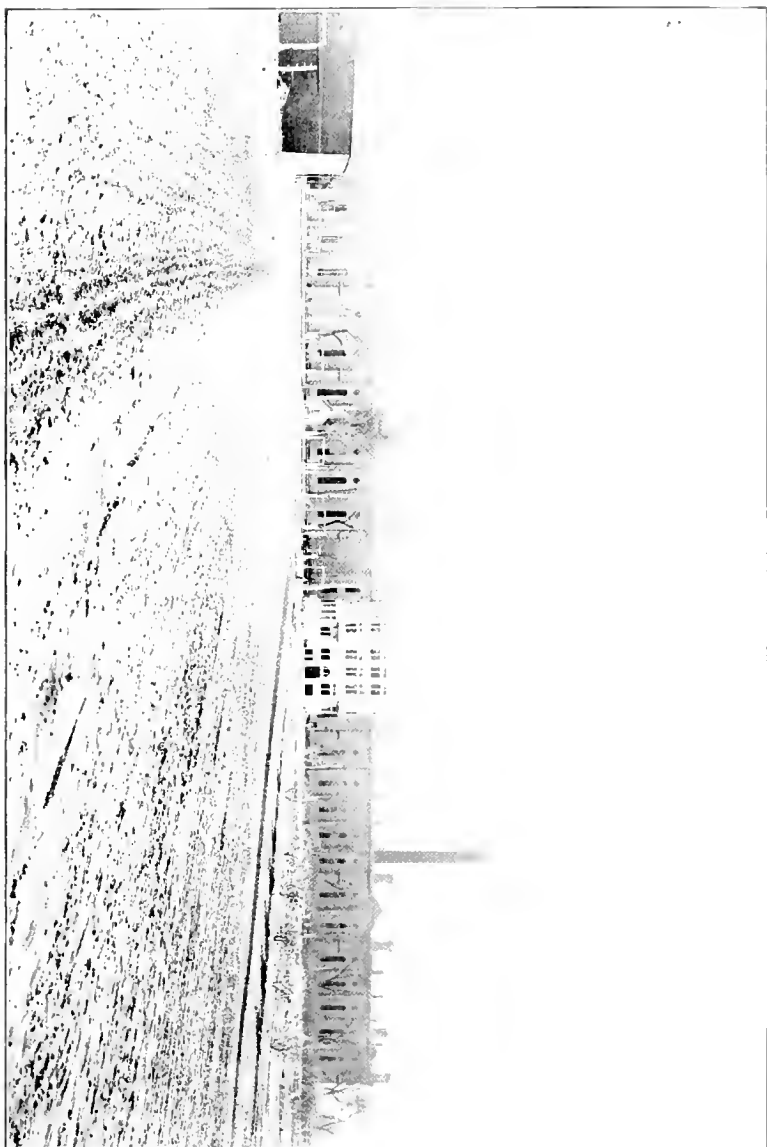
### STATE INSTITUTIONS

#### THE STATE PENITENTIARY

The act providing for the construction of the state penitentiary south of Lincoln, on land donated by W. T. Donovan and G. H. Hilton, was passed by the Legislature on March 4, 1870. W. W. Abbey, W. W. Wilson and F. Tempelin were appointed prison inspectors, to manage the disposal of 34,000 acres of land granted by the Government for prison purposes and to superintend the building. The sum of \$5,000 was appropriated for the construction of a temporary prison, to be completed by the 28th of April. Perkins & Hallowell were the contractors. The inspectors named above advertised for plans and specifications for the penitentiary, fixing the following June as the time of opening. William H. Foster of Des Moines, Iowa, was successful and upon these plans proposals were advertised for, which resulted in the acceptance of those of W. H. B. Stout and J. M. Jamison. The contract price was \$312,000 and the contractors completed the building, to the extent of the state contract, in the fall of 1876. The quarries of Saltillo, twelve miles south of Lincoln, supplied the hard magnesia limestone for the walls. Additional cells and more building space has subsequently been added to the penitentiary grounds. The first warden of the institution was Henry Campbell.

#### PENITENTIARY REVOLTS

The first mutiny at the state prison broke out about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of January 11, 1875. The instigator of the trouble was Convict McWaters, accompanied by Convicts Bohanan, Worrell, McKenna, C. W. Thompson, Gerry and Elder. Their first step was to surprise and overpower the guard in the workshop. Deputy Warden Nobes was also seized, robbed of his keys, stripped of his clothes, McWatters putting the latter on. Nobes was left in care of three of the mutineers, while the others armed with crow-bars, started for the main building. Blacking the sides of his face to represent the warden's whiskers, McWaters marched the four up to the main door in prison style, so that the door guard thought it to be the warden with a file of men, and opened the door. The prisoners sprang upon this guard and then rushed up stairs, broke into the armory and captured guns and ammunition. The deputy succeeded in loosening his bonds without being noticed by his captors, suddenly seized a hoe which was near by, and with a few blows compelled the convicts to flee. They joined their companions in the main building. Their plan was to get into citizens'



NEBRASKA STATE PENITENTIARY





clothes, obtain arms in the armory, kill the guard in the southwest turret, and just before dark make their escape through the board wall at the southwest corner. But the fortunate escape of the deputy and the alertness of the guards in the eastern turrets defeated this plan. Guns were brought to bear upon the door and the mutineers were unable to leave. Mr. Ayers, who was posted in the northeast tower, saw the prisoners as they marched out of the old prison to the main building. But as McWaters had disguised himself as the deputy warden and as the convicts marched in single file, prison order, he suspected nothing wrong. But when the alarm was given and he saw that the main building was in the hands of the convicts, he stepped down from the tower and sought shelter behind the fence. When the convicts left the door and started for the gate he fired four times, driving them back into the building.

Warden Woodhurst and two of the guards were in the hands of the mutineers. The alarm soon reached the people of Lincoln and many citizens armed themselves and hastened to the penitentiary. Every time anyone appeared at the door of the main building a volley was fired in that direction, which was effectual in keeping the convicts confined there. About 1 o'clock the next morning Company I, Twenty-third Infantry, arrived from Omaha, under command of Major Randall, and immediately stationed guards around the walls until morning. After the arrival of the troops firing began from the besieged building and was returned by the citizens and soldiers. The soldiers intended to rush the building from the south and charge the convicts in the morning, but when daylight came, and the imprisoned men saw the military, they lost hope. Mrs. Woodhurst, the wife of the warden, had been confined in the main building during the whole night, unable to join her husband who was on the outside. The convicts did not molest her as they held her in great respect. When they decided to surrender in the morning they stipulated that it would be only to her. Mrs. Woodhurst came to a window and told the besiegers what the convicts desired. Accordingly she led McWaters and his gang outside and delivered them over to the law. Mrs. Woodhurst has been given practically all of the credit for her success in persuading the prisoners to surrender without further fighting. Julius Grojean, a guard, was shot in the knee, but this was the only bloodshed.

#### THE SECOND REVOLT

On May 27, 1875, occurred the second revolt at the prison, again led by McWaters, who this time met his death. McWaters and his accomplices had planned this coup for a long time, and decided to kill Kolkow, keeper of the wash house, then Deputy Warden Nobes, after which a general rush was to be made to get possession of the prison. Sixteen men were counted upon. After dinner on Tuesday, May 26th, the time fixed for the uprising, the prisoners were not allowed to leave the main building. But the following day they were marched out as if nothing were suspected of the plot. The guards had instructions to shoot anyone who made a suspicious move. The convicts went to work industriously. John Geary shortly was granted leave to go to a toilet and as he emerged McWaters held up his hand and started for the same place. The two convicts met directly under the guard cage and as they passed McWaters touched Geary and made a threatening remark. The guard heard the sound of Mc-

Waters' voice and held his gun in readiness. McWaters picked up two stones and was about to hurl one of them at High Blaney, the guard, when the latter fired, the bullet entering McWaters' jaw, severed the carotid artery, and passed out just above the left kidney. McWaters never spoke after the shot. He walked over to Overseer Cochran, about twenty feet away, and fell into his arms where he died. The guard trained his rifle on Geary and the latter, though threatening, went back to work. The other convicts in the yard continued their work, although they might have all mutinied had not the guards taken such prompt action.

#### THE 1912 REVOLT

The trouble which came to the penitentiary in 1912 started with the stabbing of Warden E. D. Davis by Albert Prince, a negro convict, at the close of the chapel exercises on the morning of Sunday, February 11, 1912. Davis lived until 11.45 that night and then passed away. This stabbing had nothing to do with the subsequent revolt, but came so close to the latter that the two have been associated.

At 2.15 P. M., Thursday, March 14, 1912, Warden James Delahunty, Deputy Warden Henry Wagner and Usher E. G. Heilman were killed and Thomas J. Doody severely wounded, in a battle with three convicts, namely: Charles Taylor, alias Shorty Gray, alias Murray, alias Rogers, a three-termer, bank robber, serving 28 years, from Aurora; John Dowd, serving 20 years, from Cass County for burglary committed at Louisville, Neb.; Charles Morley, serving 15 years for highway robbery, from Omaha.

In the afternoon these three men entered the prison chapel on a peaceful pretext. When once there they gathered together and rushed to the office of Deputy Warden Henry Wagner, at the southwest corner of the chapel. Wagner was shot in the breast as he sat in his chair and died almost instantly. In the meantime Guard Doody had followed them into the chapel and as the three convicts turned from Wagner's door they faced the guard's fire. They replied and at the first salvo Doody fell, wounded in the leg. From his position on the floor he fired six more shots at the prisoners who took positions behind three iron pillars. Doody was again wounded and dragged himself to the door. The convicts hurried to the iron cage which barred their way to the warden's office and the outer corridor. Covering Turnkey Pahl with their revolvers Morley and Dowd cleared the way for Gray, an expert in explosives, who soaped the steel lock and blew it with nitroglycerin. They rushed into the turnkey's room and took the keys from him. As they turned Usher Heilman appeared at the door of his office. They shot him in the breast, after which he staggered back into his office. Warden Delahunty had come to the door of his own office across the corridor from that of Heilman and to the right of the hall. He opened fire upon the convicts and they returned the shots. Delahunty received a mortal wound and fell to the floor, where he expired. This gave the three desperadoes a clear path and they hastened to their freedom, facing a blinding snow storm.

They went at once to the home of J. S. Dickman, Twenty-seventh and Van Dorn streets, and remained there until late in the evening. Then they forced one of the Dickman small boys to drive them in a milk wagon to Twentieth and

R streets. From here the trail was lost until picked up at the Hall house near Prairie Home. The men had walked to Havelock and stayed in a barn loft there for several hours, then proceeded into the country.

Posses were formed and started to scour the country for the escaped men and a company of militia was placed on duty at the penitentiary to prevent any further uprising. Four days after the revolt the men were traced from Murdock, Neb., where they had robbed two stores. They stopped at the Hall home for shelter, and also at the Blunts. Roy Blunt, a young farmer, newly married, was forced to hitch his horses to a wagon and drive them away. In this conveyance the posse in charge of Sheriff Hyers first caught sight of them after a pursuit of fourteen miles along the road. A running fight ensued, the first to be killed being Roy Blunt, the driver of the wagon and the innocent victim of the bandit party. At a point  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles outside of Gretna, northeast, the sheriff and those who had maintained the pace got within good rifle range of the fleeing men. Hyers stopped his horse, rested his gun on a telegraph pole and fired. Shorty Gray, the most notorious of the three bandits and the leader, was killed by this shot. Dowd, seeing that his leader was out of the game, placed his gun to his head and killed himself. This left Morley alone and he jumped from the wagon and started back toward his pursuers, with his hands raised in the air in token of surrender. He was taken into custody and hurried back to the penitentiary, with the two bodies of his associates. Morley is now serving a life sentence for his complicity in the revolt. He testified that Gray was the leader of the three and that he had not known of the plot until the morning of the day it was put into effect. Revolvers, explosives and knives had been smuggled into the prison by some outside friends of the convicts. No further outbreak occurred at the prison, due to the strong guard of troops held there.

On Friday morning, March 30, 1912, John Strong, a negro convict, was killed by Thomas Davis, a white convict. The killing occurred just after the morning breakfast had been served at 6.30. This made the eighth death since the murder of Warden Davis in February.

#### THE STATE HOSPITAL

The State Hospital for the Insane is another of the state institutions located at Lincoln. Prior to the location of this hospital the insane were sent to the asylum in Iowa.

By the act providing for the sale of the unsold lots and blocks in Lincoln the commissioners were directed to locate near the town a site for a state lunatic asylum and from the proceeds of the sales the sum of \$50,000 was to be taken for the erection of a suitable building. Accordingly a site of 160 acres located about two miles southwest was selected and, after having issued the notices required and adopted the plans of Architect D. Winchell, of Chicago, the contract for the construction of the building was let on August 15, 1869, to Joseph Ward, for \$128,000. On December 22, 1870, the hospital was opened for the patients. A short time previous to this a small fire occurred and a little damage was done to the roof. Doctor Larsh, of Nebraska City, was appointed the first superintendent of the asylum and had twenty-six patients when he took charge.

On April 18, 1871, fire caught in the building and it was burned to the

ground. It has never been determined whether the blaze was caused by accident or purposely set by some person. The City of Lincoln immediately appropriated \$4,500 for the temporary care of the patients and this sum was afterwards repaid by the state. The building carried \$96,000 in insurance. On June 6, 1871, a bill was passed by the Legislature authorizing a new building which was not to cost over seventy thousand dollars. The insurance almost paid for the rebuilding. Gray limestone from the Atchison quarries was used in the construction. William H. Foster, of Des Moines, Iowa, was the architect of the second building and R. D. Silvers the contractor. The work was finished on October 2, 1872. The original contract called only for the main building and one wing, but the Legislature of 1875 appropriated \$25,000 for an additional wing. Additional wings and buildings have been added since.

#### THE STATE FAIR

Every year in September there is held at Lincoln the Nebraska State Fair. Thousands of people from over the state crowd the hotels of the Capital City during this time and witness one of the most complete and best fairs of any state in the country. The fair is well patronized, not only by attendance, but in exhibits of every kind of produce, especial attention being paid to the agricultural and dairy exhibits, the departments in which the state is most strong.

The first fair, territorial fair, was held at Nebraska City on September 21-22-23, 1850. The fairs of 1868 and 1869 were also held there. In 1870 and 1871 Brownville drew the exhibition and in 1872 Lincoln was given the honor for the first time. In 1873-74-75 the fair was held at Omaha; in 1876-77-78 at Lincoln; from 1879 until 1884 at Omaha; from 1885 until 1894 at Lincoln; from 1895 until 1897 at Omaha. In 1898 and 1899 there were no fairs held in the state owing to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition held at Omaha. The Legislature of 1899 passed an act, approved March 30th, providing for the permanent location of the state fair at Lincoln. Under this act the first fair was held in 1900 at Lincoln and has continued annually since this time.

The old Lancaster County Fair Grounds north of the city were purchased, enlarged, and many new buildings constructed. The state fair enclosure is now well supplied with exhibition space and has racing track, amphitheater, coliseum and other appurtenances of a fair ground which compare favorably to any in the Middle West.

## CHAPTER XXX

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### BRIEF HAPPENINGS IN LANCASTER COUNTY HISTORY

August 14, 1867—Location of the seat of government of Nebraska at Lincoln.

June 11, 1868—One hundred and thirty acres of a school section south of Lincoln sold for \$14,000.

September 2, 1868—The land office at Lincoln was opened for business.

August 1, 1870—Organization of the Lincoln Board of Trade.

October 13, 1870—First agricultural fair of Lancaster County.

October 19, 1870—Bohanan Brothers of Lincoln advertised 3,000 pounds of fresh buffalo meat for sale.

March 15, 1871—Six wagons loaded with immigrants from Indiana arrived in Lincoln.

April 18, 1871—Sixty-two homestead and pre-emption filings were made in the Lincoln land office.

May 4, 1871—Total business done at the land office for April, 1871, was: number of acres entered, 110,672.62; cash receipts for the month, \$14,915.20.

May 17, 1871—Sixty-seven immigrant wagons passed through Lincoln traveling westward.

June 9, 1871—Terrific rain and hail storm at Lincoln, doing nearly ten thousand dollars damage to the town. Cellars all over town were flooded and streets filled.

June 28, 1871—Indiana editorial excursion party visited Lincoln.

April 4, 1872—Organization of Lincoln Building and Savings Association.

June 15, 1872—It is estimated that there are thirty-three immigrant wagons passing through Lincoln westward every day.

July 27, 1872—Doctor McKesson made satisfactory test of the new harvester invented by himself.

August 14, 1872—A cloud of grasshoppers was seen passing southward.

September 4, 1872—A train of ten cars carrying 552 passengers from Illinois arrived in Lincoln.

September 5, 1872—The B. & M. Railroad brought to Lincoln on a single train 720 passengers, over six hundred of them being from the State of Iowa.

October 9, 1872—Fourteen wagons of wheat were brought into Lincoln from Seward.

October 14, 1872—General offices of the Midland Pacific Railway brought from Nebraska City to Lincoln.

November 21, 1872—The Lincoln Coal Mining Company filed articles of incorporation. They proposed to mine for coal disclosed while boring for an artesian well. A  $4\frac{1}{2}$ -foot coal vein was discovered 850 feet under the ground surface.

December 10, 1872—The mail between Fremont and Lincoln was being carried on foot, due to the prevalence of a horse disease known as epizootic.

December 14, 1872—Gas was used for the first time in Lincoln.

January 20, 1873—The Union Pacific Railroad established a branch office of their land depot at Lincoln.

March 12, 1873—Organization of Lancaster County Taxpayers Club.

May 9, 1873—Organization of Nebraska Townsite and Land Company in Lincoln.

May 31, 1873—Salt Creek overflowed and the bottoms west of Lincoln were inundated.

April 1, 1874—Municipal temperance party formed at Lincoln.

June 1, 1874—James Whitebreast, Otoe Indian convict, died at the penitentiary and was the first to be buried in the prison cemetery.

June 13, 1874—Greatest flood in five years occurred in Lincoln and vicinity.

June 24, 1874—First five graduates of the university formed an alumni club.

July 16, 1874—A pickle factory was established at Lincoln.

July 20, 1874—The grasshopper scourge was reported from many parts of the state.

July 29, 1874—A large party of Russian Mennonites encamped at the fair grounds in Lincoln.

June 1, 1875—Grasshoppers devastated the southern counties.

August 1, 1875—Destruction of the Atwood House in Lincoln.

November 15, 1877—Earthquake shocks were felt by the residents of Lincoln.

September 7, 1878—A phonograph was exhibited at the opera house in Lincoln for the first time.

July 1, 1879—Forty-two colored immigrants arrived in Lincoln.

March 15, 1881—Seven inches of snow fell inside of three hours.

March 25, 1881—Salt Creek flooded the B. & M. depot grounds and west bottoms from two to five feet in depth.

February 23, 1884—Death of Elder J. M. Young, founder of Lincoln.

August 23, 1884—A mob near Berks Station, Lancaster County, lynched a Mexican, Luciano Padillo, for the crime of rape.

March 11, 1886—The Fitzgerald Hose Company of Lincoln won the 300-yard race at New Orleans, a contest open to the world.

August 19, 1888—A three-foot vein of coal was discovered on the farm of Joseph L. Ryons, eleven miles east of Lincoln.

June 6, 1889—William A. Wiggington was the first negro graduate of the Lincoln public schools.

April 28, 1890—The new Burlington Flyer made the Chicago-Denver run in  $29\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

May 18, 1892—Salt Creek rose the highest in seventeen years. Three hundred families were made homeless.

July 26, 1892—Dr. W. B. Swisher by his secret process agreed to bring an inch of rain to Lincoln and vicinity within twelve hours.

July 27, 1892—One and two-tenths inches of rain fell in Lincoln and was general throughout the state.

April 2, 1896—Maxey Cobb, treasurer of Lancaster County, found dead near the penitentiary. His accounts were short.

May 24, 1897—Herd of bison and elk at Lincoln Park sold and sent to Germany.

September 16, 1899—Disastrous fire in Lincoln with property loss of \$160,000.

May 30, 1902—Dedication of monument to soldier dead at Wyuka.

July 9, 1902—Salt Creek reached the highest point in its history.

October 11, 1902—B. & M. train held up by robbers near Lincoln.

May 20, 1903—University students during shirt tail parade had a bruising riot with the police.

July 1, 1906—Lincoln was flooded with water by a cloudburst. Creeks and streams were out of their banks.

December 29, 1906—Samuel D. Cox shot to death.

January 10, 1907—W. J. Bryan deeded ten acres of land along the Antelope for a park.

July 5, 1908—Lincoln was again flooded. Salt Creek overflowed and the gas works were put out of commission. Railroads were compelled to suspend business, hundreds were homeless and nine were dead.

May 4, 1909—Lincoln voted out the saloons, a "dry" condition which then prevailed for two years.

December 29, 1909—The Labor Temple of Lincoln was dedicated.

## LANCASTER COUNTY CENSUS

Precinct or Town	1910	1900	1890
Buda Precinct .....	899	982	859
Including Hallam .....	168	.....	.....
Centerville Precinct .....	792	832	788
Denton Precinct .....	706	590	453
Elk Precinct .....	688	674	691
Garfield Precinct .....	1,072	443	611

(Parts of Garfield Precinct were annexed to Lincoln City in 1906 and 1910; a part of Lincoln City was annexed to Garfield Precinct in 1901 and 1906.)

Grant Precinct .....	2,149	1,494	893
Including College View .....	1,508	865	.....
Highland Precinct .....	606	704	827
Lancaster Precinct .....	8,364	3,953	1,397
Including Bethany .....	948	330	.....
Including Havelock .....	2,680	1,480	.....
Including University Place.....	3,200	1,130	571

(Parts of Lancaster Precinct were annexed to Lincoln City in 1906; parts of Lincoln City were annexed to Lancaster Precinct in 1900 and 1906.)

Lincoln City .....	43,973	40,169	55,154
Little Salt Precinct .....	547	600	515
Middle Creek Precinct .....	690	762	756
Mill Precinct .....	551	650	596
Nemaha Precinct .....	1,091	1,291	1,352
Including Bennett .....	457	495	474
North Bluff Precinct .....	498	524	501
Oak Precinct .....	803	849	734
Including Raymond .....	236	200	.....
Olive Branch Precinct .....	725	802	779
Panama Precinct .....	927	971	814
Including Panama .....	230	.....	.....
Rock Creek Precinct .....	741	877	961
Saltillo Precinct .....	1,176	1,297	1,266
Including Hickman .....	388	382	341
Including Roca .....	129	177	191
South Pass Precinct .....	1,180	1,257	1,249
Including Firth .....	343	307	259
Stevens Creek Precinct .....	592	625	560
Stockton Precinct .....	529	616	677
Waverly Precinct .....	736	802	916
Including Waverly .....	297	266	.....
West Lincoln Precinct .....	692	584	723
Including W. Lincoln .....	200	220	443
West Oak Precinct .....	634	640	565
Yankee Hill Precinct .....	2,342	1,847	1,758
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	73,793	64,835	76,395

## POPULATION OF INCORPORATED TOWNS IN LANCASTER COUNTY

	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870
Bennett .....	457	495	474	214	.....
Bethany .....	948	330	.....	.....	.....
College View .....	1,508	865	.....	.....	.....
Firth .....	343	307	259	230	.....
Hallam .....	168	.....	.....	.....	.....
Havelock .....	2,680	1,480	.....	.....	.....
Hickman .....	388	382	341	83	.....
Lincoln .....	43,973	40,169	55,154	13,003	2,441
Malcolm .....	.....	.....	.....	53	.....
Panama .....	230	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raymond .....	236	200	.....	.....	.....
Roca .....	129	177	191	115	.....
University Place .....	3,200	1,130	571	.....	.....
Waverly .....	297	266	916	132	.....
West Lincoln .....	200	220	443	.....	.....



## PAGEANTS

The first effort made by Lincoln in the direction of a pageant was in 1880, when the Tartarrax Pageant was held in the city. Mr. Robert McReynolds was the originator of this pageant which was held on the Fourth of July of that year.

In 1915 the Pageant of Lincoln was held on June 5th and was such a success that it is to be repeated each year. The first pageant, 1915, depicted the early history of Lincoln, the settlement by the salt basin, the founding of Lincoln as the first state capital and the subsequent growth of the city. The idea originated with the Alumni Association of the University of Nebraska, and they sought co-operation of every business in town. The Lincoln Commercial Club aided them very materially and helped to make it a success financially. Two performances were given on the university athletic field and were attended by about three thousand people. A slight rain in the evening threatened to spoil the night performance, but fortunately did not. The book was written by Hartley B. Alexander and the music was composed by Howard I. Kirkpatrick. Robert D. Scott was director of the pageant and Bessie F. Park was assistant director. The pageant was divided into six scenes entitled: Westward Ho!; The Salt Gatherers; Choice of the Site of Lincoln, June 29, 1867; Proclamation of the Capital City, August 14, 1867; Medley of University Life; and The Grasshoppers and After. The pageant was partly symbolical, partly historical. The symbolical scenes were set to music and made free use of allegory; the historical scenes were dramatic in form, and aimed to be vividly reminiscent of the events of early days rather than to reproduce these events with fidelity. Each scene was divided into three groups of two scenes each. The total cost of the production was \$2,800. In 1916 the pageant will be given again, this time dealing with Omaha, the Gate City of Nebraska.

## A PIONEER IN LINCOLN

The experience of Mr. Adam Bax in the early existence of Lincoln is typical of others who were here at that time. Mr. Bax died in 1915, at the time of his death being one of the few pioneers left. Taking up the story of his life after his arrival in Lincoln an article in the State Journal on the date of the Bax golden wedding said:

"Mr. Bax was induced to go into business, and Nelson Brock, at that time a banker at Nebraska City, gave him a loan of \$75 to start into the shoe business. He sent the money to a firm in St. Joseph, and instead of sending the \$75 worth of stock he had requested, the company sent him \$300 worth of leather, and offered to trust him for the balance. Mr. Bax got as much as twenty dollars for a pair of boots in those days, and a good share of the work was done by Mrs. Bax, who helped in the shop. The little shop where they worked was built for them by Robert Bain, at that time the county clerk. The building was 12 feet square, and stood on the rear of the lot where the First National Bank is now located. The rental was \$12 a month. From there they moved to Eleventh and O streets, in a two-room house owned by Jacob Drumm. Mrs. Bax had tired of boarding, and accomplished the moving unknown to Mr. Bax. She made an excuse to have him go to the new location, where he found his evening

meal awaiting him. There were only two rooms, and this was to be the shop and home. Mrs. Bax at one time kept seven boarders at this place. They paid \$30 a month for this house.

"George Ballentine offered to furnish the lumber to Mr. Bax for a shop to be built on the lot two doors west of the southwest corner of Tenth and O streets. This he did, Mr. Ballentine accepting his entire account for lumber in shoes. Mr. Bax built up a good trade in a short time, keeping one part of the shop for the seven or more workmen, and the other for stock and sales room.

"About this time the Legislature of Nebraska voted to send three men to Germany as emigration agents. Mr. Bax was chosen one of these, his salary to be \$200 a month for two years. Nelson C. Brock provided the funds for the tickets with which Mr. and Mrs. Bax started for his old home in Germany, leaving on April 15, 1871. Mr. Bax was exceedingly homesick one day when seeing the stars and stripes floating at a Washington's birthday celebration, and he decided to return home, which they did not long after.

"On reaching Lincoln he bought a shop on the lot where the south wing of the Lincoln Hotel now stands. South of him was a grocery store of Torry & Reed, and north of him at the corner of Ninth and P was the Graham saloon. One morning he came down to the shop to find it was leveled to the ground from fire, together with the other two business places in the block.

"Mr. Bax then went to work for C. B. Parker, who was in the tombstone business. He traveled to the country districts taking orders for work, most of the customers being homesteaders. From this he went to work for W. A. Dogget, selling sewing machines, and later for the Davison, Shamp & Co., implement and machine business.

"About this time a syndicate of Lincoln men was organized to give work to the convicts at the penitentiary, starting a shoe factory. The company was composed of A. J. Sawyer, N. S. Harwood, Sam McClay, R. H. Oakley and Mr. Fisher. Mr. Bax was engaged to take charge of this shop, and had a gang of twenty-three convicts working under him.

"Mr. Bax left this position to become one of the first mail carriers of Lincoln. There were five carriers, the others being William Gillespie, John Simmons, Mr. Whitmore and Mr. Tarbox. The work laid out for Mr. Bax was to make two deliveries of mail each day, and to gather up the mail from the boxes over his district and bring it to the office before 6 o'clock each morning. His route was bounded by Salt Creek to the west, twentieth Street East, and from G Street to the city limits south, beyond South Street. His salary was \$850 a year. Mr. Bax would not work under a democratic administration, so when President Cleveland went in the front door of the White House, Mr. Bax stepped out the back door of the postoffice. He was then appointed the carrier of the mails between the state house and postoffice, which position he held for ten years. Then he was for seven years the assessor for the fifth ward in Lincoln.

"One of the incidents in the life of Mr. Bax was the starting of the German Methodist Church in Lincoln. The first Nebraska Legislature in the year of 1869 donated three city lots for the German Methodist Church at the corner of Fifteenth and M. There was no German Methodist Society and no German who was a member of a Methodist church, except Mr. Bax, who was connected with

the St. Paul's Church. Governor Butler called on Mr. Bax and insisted that he should build the church, and that it must be done before July 1st, in order to retain the lots, which would revert back to the state if not occupied by that date. The governor offered to contribute \$125 as a starter to the building fund. Colonel Cropsey volunteered a donation of \$120; Tom Kennard, then secretary of state, gave \$75; John Gillespie, auditor, contributed \$50. These were all voluntary contributions, the men understanding the value of having churches in the community, and even if there was no German organization they were willing to contribute toward a cause that would tend to bring settlers to the community. The presiding elder of the Methodist Church was appealed to to find a German preacher, and enough interested people gathered together to complete an organization. Mr. Bax went over to the east side of the 'square' and by buttonholing his friends and acquaintances, he got the promise of just \$840 for the new building.

"There were no buffalo in this part of the state when Mr. and Mrs. Bax came. There were great numbers of antelope, and one morning Mr. Bax counted a herd of sixty-two on the hill which is now Franklin Heights. There were also a great number of prairie chickens and quail.

"Mr. Bax filed on a homestead in his earlier years. His wife and a young woman held the place as their residence, while Mr. Bax was working at the shoe trade in Lincoln. The homestead was six miles from the present site of Germantown, in Seward County. The nearest neighbor was seven miles away.

"In recalling the boom in city property, Mr. Bax tells a story about Charles Morrasey, who purchased for \$14 a corner lot at Seventh and S streets. He was ridiculed and joked to the limit. As he made his appearance among his chums he was greeted with a noise imitating the frogs. At that time these particular lots were under water. In less than a year, however, Mr. Morrasey sold his lot for nearly five hundred dollars. About this time Tom Robertson offered lot No. 2 in the block where the Rudge store now stands to Mr. Bax for \$300.

"Mrs. Bax claims the honor of making the first American flag which was unfurled to the breezes in Lincoln. The material for the flag was bunting, and was furnished to her for sewing by the Grant and Tanner Club Society, in the year 1868. The flag was twenty-one feet long, and the stars were placed in such a way as to form one big star."

#### ANIMALS IN EARLY LINCOLN

It is said upon good authority that the growth of the new Town of Lincoln was so rapid during the first few years of its existence that the wild animals which had occupied comfortable quarters upon the site could not accommodate themselves to the presence of civilization and ventured to remain with the hope that the mysterious enemy might leave, but which hope generally resulted in the enrichment of the fur dealer's business.

Deer, wolves, and many smaller species of animals were captured and killed in the Town of Lincoln as late as 1872. Simon P. Benadom was a fur merchant of Lincoln at that time. In the winter 1871-72 he went East with a stock and returning, found that Rich & Oppenheimer had bought a quantity of furs. He immediately bought these and also another batch of Simon Kelly, who had

traded a few casks of whisky to trappers on the Blue River for the pelts. Besides this trade in animal pelts Benadom shipped inside of two months 16,000 each of prairie chickens and quail to New York, each bird in a frozen condition. In 1868 Benadom killed about fifty deer upon the present plat of Lincoln, also about twenty wolves. Deer were especially plentiful in the Salt Creek bottoms.

#### AN EARLY CLUB

One of the most successful and energetic of the clubs of early Lincoln was the Red Ribbon Club, which was organized by John B. Finch in November, 1877, at a place on the east side of Tenth Street, four doors north of N. For years the meetings were held in what was known as the Red Ribbon Hall at the corner of Twelfth and M streets. The roll of membership grew to large proportions, fully seventeen thousand persons being members here and in the state at one time. The purpose of the club was to help the moral condition of the city and to do charity and rescue work in general.

#### HOTELS

Reference has already been made to the pioneer hotels of Lincoln, the Pioneer, the Cadman House and the Atwood House. In 1869 a Mr. Wilson constructed a store foundation on the southwest corner of P and Eleventh streets. This site was sold to James Griffith, who in turn disposed of it to Cropsey & England. This firm passed the property over to Doctor Scott, who completed a building there and opened a drug store about 1869. In 1870 he converted the building into a hotel, which was managed by John Douglas and was called the Douglas House. The house continued under this management until November, 1873, when J. J. Imhoff bought it, called it the Commercial Hotel and enlarged it. The business of the hostelry increased rapidly and the building was again enlarged and made three stories in height. It became the political headquarters of the state and a general meeting place for the citizens. In 1886 C. W. Kitchen bought the place and changed the name to The Capitol Hotel. He managed it until May 1, 1887, when Edward P. Roggen became the landlord. This hotel continued for some years as the leading hostelry and is still operated, although in recent years it has ceased to have the popularity it once enjoyed.

The next hotel was Opelt's, at Ninth and Q streets, which was completed by 1880, having been built by J. S. Atwood. At that time it was one of the largest hotels in Nebraska. It was then named the Arlington. The next hotel to be constructed was the Windsor, first called the Gorham House, located at the southeast corner of Eleventh and Q streets. This hotel was erected by T. F. Barnes in 1884, and was opened January 5, 1885, by Gorham & Brown. This hotel, when built, was a notable addition to the city. The Windsor has in recent months been renovated and placed under an incorporated management and is now regaining prestige and popularity which was suffered to decrease for a number of years.

The Lindell is one of the leading hotels of Lincoln at the present time. The site of the Lindell has been a hotel location for about forty-eight years. In 1869

J. N. Townley opened a boarding house there, which was managed by John Douglas for a short time. The property passed through various hands and finally was bought by Doctor Hoover in 1885, who removed the old frame to one side and erected a brick structure the next year, two years later enlarging it again. The Lindell Hotel at present enjoys the distinction of being the political headquarters for Lancaster County and most of the state. It bears the same reputation in this respect as did the old Capitol Hotel in its palmy days.

#### FLOOD OF AUGUST, 1889

On Monday, August 12, 1889, and a part of the following night an extremely heavy rain fell in Lincoln and nearby territory. The water began to gather in the vicinity of the basin on Monday and rose rapidly all the night. Before Tuesday morning all of the lowland was practically covered, land where hundreds of families lived in their cottages. In many of the homes water was three feet deep. Many of the people were marooned in their houses, not being able to find the way along the submerged streets and paths to high ground. On Tuesday morning rescuers were at work and the unfortunate people transported to high ground. For the most part the people were poor and the question of food, clothing and shelter for them was a perplexing one. During the day Mayor Graham and other city officials threw open the Park School House to the refugees. By evening of the 13th the water had reached the highest point and then began to recede, requiring most of the week, however, to regain its normal height. Fortunately, the weather was pleasant during this time and it was comparatively easy for the people to renovate their homes and dig them from the mire and refuse caused by the flood waters. No lives were lost, but quite an amount of property ruined. The railroads also suffered from the deluge, both the Union Pacific and Burlington requiring several days to get their trains running. The water did not quite cover the crown of the pavement at Seventh and N streets, but the paving blocks were displaced and had to be repaired. In point of property destroyed this flood was the worst Lincoln ever experienced, but there have been several times when the water was higher. One flood was in 1868, one in 1860, 1874, 1887, 1892, 1902 and 1906. The water of 1902 from Salt Creek reached the highest point of its history.

#### TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following were the men who represented the district of which Lancaster County was a part in the Territorial Legislatures: Session of 1856: L. Nuckolls, councilman; J. M. Latham, William Kempton, J. D. N. Thompson, house. Second session, 1856: S. M. Kirkpatrick, councilman; John F. Buck, William Laird, J. McF. Hagood, house. Regular session, 1857: S. M. Kirkpatrick, councilman; W. M. Slaughter, H. C. Wolph, Broad Cole, house. Regular session, 2d, 1857: S. M. Kirkpatrick, councilman; E. A. Donelan, T. M. Marquett, L. Sheldon, Joseph Van Horn, house. Extra session, 1858: E. A. Donelan, council; William R. Davis, William J. Young, T. M. Marquett, R. G. Doom, house. Regular session, 1859: John H. Cheever, council; J. N. Stephenson, W. S. Latta, W. R. Davis, Samuel Maxwell, T. M. Marquett, house. Regular session, 1860: T. M.

Marquett, council; William Reed, E. W. Barnum, W. R. Davis, Loudon Mullen, W. Gilmour, house. Regular session, 1861: S. M. Kirkpatrick, council; S. Elkenberry, Isaac Wiles, James Chalfant, W. F. Chapin, E. W. Barnum, house. Regular session, 1864: T. M. Marquett, council; J. W. Chapman, H. C. Pardee, L. G. Todd, R. O. Hoback, J. S. Gregory, Jr., house. Regular session, 1865: J. G. Miller, council; William Inlay, John Cadman, house. Regular session, 1866: J. G. Miller, council; John Cadman, Marcus Brush, house. Regular session, 1867: J. E. Doom, council; E. H. Hardenbergh, E. L. Clark, house.

#### LANCASTER COUNTY'S ONLY LYNCING

The only lynching which ever occurred in Lancaster County was on August 23, 1884, at about 4 o'clock P. M. The victim of the mob was Luciano Padillo, a Mexican, formerly employed at Mrs. Southwick's boarding house in Lincoln on the site of the present Globe Laundry building. The crime for which he was hanged was the assault upon little Anna Grange, a fourteen year old girl, living in the vicinity of Burks Station, Highland Precinct, Lancaster County.

On the afternoon of August 16, 1884, Padillo walked through the country and met young Anna Grange who was in quest of plums in the nearby wood. The Mexican accompanied the young girl and later committed the crime for which he paid the greatest penalty just a week later. A few days afterward he was arrested at Beatrice, Nebraska, and brought to Lincoln and lodged in the jail, until he could be brought to trial. On Saturday, August 23d, Sheriff Melick received word that the young girl was dying and that it would be advisable to bring the culprit to the Grange home in order that he might be identified—the Mexican in the meantime having stoutly denied his guilt. Shortly after noon, Sheriff Melick boarded the train with his prisoner, accompanied by Chief of Police Beach, Judge Parker and Professor Bluehdorn, intending to proceed directly to the girl's house and return upon the east bound train at 3:30 P. M. After traveling a few miles by rail someone suggested that it would be safer to leave the train and resume the journey in another manner. This suggestion, apparently a good one, was acted upon and the party left the train at Denton, with the exception of Judge Parker, who went on to Burk's. Melick, Bluehdorn, Beach and the prisoner procured a buggy and a team at the farm of Maxey Cobb and started to the Grange home. Again, after traveling a short distance, they decided that the buggy was too conspicuous. The horses were unhitched, Melick mounted one and placed the prisoner on the other, and the two continued upon their way, leaving Bluehdorn and Beach at the point where they had abandoned the carriage. Melick and Padillo had not gone far when they met two men, mounted, who inquired where the prisoner was, and turned their horses to accompany the former. In the meantime Judge Parker had reached the Grange home and, not having seen any suspicious persons in the vicinity, dispatched a messenger back along the road to meet Melick and his party and to inform them that the coast was clear. When they had about reached the Grange home four men rode up, on horseback, and demanded the prisoner, remarking that their purpose was to hang him. After parleying for a short time all of the men started back to the point where Beach and Bluehdorn were waiting, all the time under guard of the "mysterious horsemen" who were bent upon having revenge upon the Mexican. Upon the way Sheriff Melick noted men in numbers in several

directions, evidently watching them, and awaiting the word to seize the prisoner. In a last effort to save his man he whipped up his horse, also the Mexican's mount, and there ensued a chase of several miles. The horses upon which Melick and his prisoner rode were common farm nags and were not sufficiently strong to withstand many miles of the grueling pace. By the time they had reached the place where Beach and his companion were waiting they were exhausted and the pursuers caught up. Three of the horsemen remained with the party and the fourth rode to the top of a hill and gave a signal, whereupon fifty or sixty horsemen appeared upon the scene from every direction. Again Sheriff Melick tried to plead with the men, but they were obstinate and demanded the person of the prisoner. Realizing that his efforts were futile Melick released the handcuffs from the prisoner's wrists in order that he might have a last chance for his life, which was a mighty slim one.

Suddenly five men jumped upon Sheriff Melick and downed him, a like number having taken care of Beach. The Mexican was taken into custody and all started for the Grange home, leaving the sheriff and his friends without horses. Melick luckily discovered a pony, upon which he mounted, and rode fast enough to reach the girl's home before the lynchers came. Padillo was brought before Anna Grange and after several dubious answers she positively identified him as the assailant by a scar upon his left arm. This established his guilt in the minds of all present. The lynchers immediately placed the condemned one in a lumber wagon and started for the timber.

They traveled to the identical spot where just a week before the Mexican had committed his dastardly crime, placed a rope around the limb of a tree upon the edge of the creek bank, and pushed the Mexican over the edge of the slope. Here, upon the limb of the same tree under which he had assaulted Anna Grange, Luciano Padillo expired in the hangman's noose. The scene of the hanging was on what was known as Cheese Creek, in Highland Precinct, sixteen miles southwest of Lincoln, and one mile from the B. & M. Railroad.

Padillo's body was cut down the next day and brought to Lincoln, to Mr. James Heaton's undertaking parlors. It is related that the Mexican, despite the enormity of his crime and his degeneracy of character, went to his death and expiated his deed without flinching. He was gritty to the end. Efforts were made to discover his relatives, but were not successful, and his body was turned over to a medical college. The young girl, Anna Grange, was not expected to live, owing to knife wounds upon her body, but after several days of doubt she survived.

#### CRIMINAL CASES

Lincoln and Lancaster County have been remarkably free from brutal murders or complicated crimes, and resultant criminal trials, but there have been a few cases of this type which have attracted a great amount of attention. Perhaps the most notable of the murder cases in the county was known as the Sheedy case.

Sheedy, the victim, was murdered, or struck upon the head, from the result of which blow he later died, in January, 1891. The case had many ramifications

and complications, most of them not of the character to be written into the story. Mary Sheedy, the wife, and a negro, Monday McFarland, were the suspected ones and were indicted and brought to trial. The negro was thought to have struck the blow and the wife to have been the one who hired him to do it. Other people were implicated, but not in such a way to stand trial. The case was begun in the courts on May 12, 1891, and on May 29th the jury brought in the verdict of "not guilty." It is presumed that the defendants were guilty, but sufficient proof could not be found. This was the last of this case.

Perhaps the next important case which ever occurred in Lancaster County was that known as the State of Nebraska vs. Quin Bohanan, the latter charged with murder in the first degree. On March 3, 1882, the defendant was arraigned and pleaded not guilty, and on June 5th the trial was begun. On the 9th the jury brought in a verdict of "guilty" of murder in the second degree. Bohanan was sentenced to life imprisonment. Bohanan was kept in confinement, pending an appeal. On January 4, 1884, a mandate came from the Supreme Court reversing the lower court and remanding cause for new trial. A change of venue was secured and the case taken to Otoe County, at Nebraska City. Here the defendant was again found guilty, this time of murder in the first degree, and was sentenced to be hanged. Quite an interesting technicality of law was brought up, owing to the fact that the lawyers for Bohanan claimed that another court could not sentence a man for a higher degree of murder when he had previously been sentenced to a lower degree. The higher courts finally decided that the second trial, in this and every other case, was independent of the first and that when the new trial was begun the verdict of the first jury was entirely set aside and void. This ruling is now a statute of Nebraska law.

Another celebrated case was the Montgomery-Irvine trial. Irvine was a real estate man and Charles E. Montgomery was the president of the German National Bank of Lincoln. Irvine believed Montgomery to be in league with his wife and followed him to several places in the country to convince himself of the fact. Finally he appeared in Lincoln and shot Montgomery, while the latter was seated at a dining table in the Lincoln Hotel. On October 13, 1892, the case was brought into court and continued until the 24th, when the jury decided that Irvine was not guilty of the crime as charged. This ended the case.

#### THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

On April 23, 1889, a meeting was held at the council chamber at the corner of Tenth and Q streets, at which the Old Settlers' Association was organized. Mr. A. J. Sawyer was chairman of the meeting and J. P. Hebard, secretary. A committee, composed of N. S. Harwood, M. Tower, A. J. Sawyer, A. W. Field, Levi Snell and S. C. Elliott, were appointed to draft a constitution for the association. The members of the association planned and held a big celebration at Cushman Park on June 19, 1889.

The formation of this association is chiefly interesting because of the personnel of the membership. A list of the early members will be found to contain nearly all of the settlers who came to this county and began the development of



this territory. Following is a list of the settlers who reported, their native state or country, and the year of coming to this county:

- |                                      |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. S. Godfrey, Massachusetts, '70    | H. Schultz, Germany, '66              |
| Louie Meyer, Austria, '70            | George A. Mayer, Germany, '63         |
| E. E. Brown, New York, '70           | F. S. Wittstruck, Germany, '65        |
| C. B. Beach, Ohio, '69               | J. C. Clarke, Vermont, '71            |
| A. B. Beach, Ohio, '70               | Ed Bingham, England, '67              |
| W. H. Dobson, Ontario, '72           | J. P. Walton, Ohio, '74               |
| B. Cox, Virginia, '72                | C. C. Pace, Kentucky, '74             |
| Mrs. E. B. Cox, Ohio, '72            | Mrs. M. P. Husted, Michigan, '67      |
| John Schuller, Austria, '74          | W. J. Turner, Ohio, '69               |
| S. B. Hohmann, Pennsylvania, '69     | W. E. G. Caldwell, New Hampshire, '70 |
| S. Peckham, England, '74             | W. J. Cooper, New York, '69           |
| James B. Hale, Indiana, '66          | John Currie, Pennsylvania, '72        |
| J. W. Smith, Indiana, '73            | Chris Fossler, Germany, '69           |
| John Y. Ellenburg, Germany, '73      | M. Bowden, Ireland, '68               |
| R. J. Williams, Pennsylvania, '68    | R. S. Browne, England, '79            |
| J. H. Painter, Pennsylvania, '73     | W. C. Burke, Ohio, '68                |
| Dr. A. K. Painter, Pennsylvania, '74 | Fred Schmidt, Iowa, '70               |
| J. N. T. Jones, Kentucky, '69        | H. H. Blodgett, New York, '69         |
| Adelia Boyd, Sweden, '70             | J. S. Lefferdink, Holland, '71        |
| A. H. Wilson, New York, '66          | H. Heffner, Germany, '69              |
| W. Flanigan, Canada, '71             | G. M. Blodgett, New York, '69         |
| M. V. Radford, Illinois, '70         | J. H. Myer, Hanover, '69              |
| N. G. Franklin, Ohio, '71            | Fred Funke, Germany, '74              |
| H. E. George, Illinois, '70          | D. L. Graham, Ohio, '70               |
| E. Duling, Ohio, '79                 | George Sexton, Ohio, '75              |
| Luther Batten, Wisconsin, '70        | J. Farmer, New Jersey, '70            |
| H. L. Andrews, Wisconsin, '71        | Thomas Morissey, Ireland, '69         |
| O. M. Druse, New York, '71           | J. A. Morissey, Tennessee, '66        |
| P. Hayden, Ireland, '70              | J. D. Kleutsch, Prussia, '72          |
| H. Wittman, Germany, '73             | C. G. Bullock, New York, '73          |
| H. Malberts, Germany, '65            | E. G. Bohanan, Illinois, '75          |
| D. L. Peckham, Michigan, '67         | W. R. Horn, Illinois, '70             |
| J. L. Porter, Virginia, '66          | Thomas C. Mawe, England, '72          |
| L. N. Haskin, New York, '63          | H. S. Gordon, Massachusetts, '74      |
| James Gilmore, Indiana, '72          | C. A. Tucker, Nebraska, '71           |
| William Frohn, Germany, '70          | A. Chandler, Pennsylvania, '69        |
| W. W. W. Jones, Illinois, '74        | A. C. Ricketts, Ohio, '72             |
| A. E. Hargreaves, England, '72       | W. B. Hargreaves, England, '70        |
| J. W. Castor, Ohio, '73              | J. D. Johnson, Sweden, '70            |
| Charles Hichewick, '67               | A. Keens, England, '72                |
| Robert Pickel, Illinois, '67         | W. L. Gorton, New York, '70           |
| J. K. Honeywell, New York, '68       | I. N. Leonard, Ohio, '70              |
| H. Oehlechlager, Germany, '74        | Eddie I. Bohanan, Nebraska, '74       |
| F. Claus, Germany, '69               | Isaac Whited, Ohio, '71               |
| Thomas Price, Ireland, '69           | J. F. Schultz, Germany, '67           |

- George W. Prey, Wisconsin, '56  
 William Charlton, Iowa, '73  
 H. F. Mitchell, Ohio, '73  
 H. F. Warner, Iowa, '64  
 A. G. Warner, Iowa, '64  
 J. S. Howard, Ohio, '72  
 Adna Dobson, Wisconsin, '72  
 T. R. Prey, Massachusetts, '56  
 L. H. Meyer, Iowa, '68  
 W. H. Meyer, Iowa, '72  
 Henry Bartells, Germany, '73  
 Silas Sprague, Ohio, '68  
 M. Oppenheimer, Germany, '68  
 Joseph Oppenheimer, Missouri, '70  
 John Thompson, '71  
 Robert Manley, Ohio, '68  
 Robert Mitchell, England, '71  
 J. H. Kellum, Massachusetts, '71  
 Cornelius Moran, Nebraska, '61  
 M. G. Bohanan, Illinois, '68  
 E. T. Roberts, New York, '73  
 H. D. Hathaway, Ohio, '72  
 George Sherrer, Germany, '72  
 Maurice Dee, Nebraska, '60  
 N. D. Smith, Ohio, '71  
 E. R. Sizer, Illinois, '74  
 A. W. Field, Illinois, '63  
 N. C. Abbott, New York, '71  
 T. C. Kern, Indiana, '72  
 William Roggenkamp, Friezen, '60  
 H. W. Hardy, New York, '71  
 J. A. Bailey, Ohio, '68  
 Timothy Kelley, Ireland, '69  
 Ed A. Church, England, '68  
 J. B. Trickey, Illinois, '70  
 Mark Howe, Ohio, '70  
 R. H. Corner, England, '73  
 H. H. Grimes, Ohio, '74  
 W. E. Wittman, Indiana, '70  
 W. J. Marshall, Vermont, '70  
 C. H. Foxworthy, Indiana, '74  
 J. H. Foxworthy, Indiana, '73  
 M. Shay, Ireland, '59  
 Ellen Shay, Ireland, '59  
 E. B. Hyde, Illinois, '69  
 C. M. Leighton, Maine, '68  
 Dennis Merriman, Ireland, '68  
 W. H. Boyer, Ohio, '68  
 C. C. Morse, Vermont, '72  
 A. C. Munson, Nebraska, '71  
 Mat Maule, '71  
 D. C. Brown, Missouri, '72  
 R. W. Kent, Illinois, '73  
 W. H. Schmale, Germany, '67  
 C. A. Porter, Iowa, '66  
 H. Perkins, Indiana, '69  
 M. B. Donahue, Iowa, '68  
 M. Cobb, Wisconsin, '71  
 Harry Abbott, England, '71  
 J. A. Snyder, Indiana, '62  
 William Bohanan, Illinois, '69  
 C. F. Retzliff, Germany, '58  
 E. L. English, Illinois, '70  
 A. G. Kellum, Massachusetts, '71  
 Henry Alberts, Germany, '65  
 H. H. Schaberg, Wisconsin, '70  
 T. E. Longstreet, New York, '70  
 A. W. Stutheit, Iowa, '66  
 S. C. Blasier, New York, '68  
 John Lundgreen, '73  
 L. B. McFarland, Ohio, '74  
 G. A. Spencer, New York, '71  
 C. G. Beams, Ohio, '74  
 Sam McClay, Ohio, '67  
 James Burcham, Ohio, '68  
 John Fisher, Pennsylvania, '69  
 Phil Bohanan, Nebraska, '71  
 E. Warnes, England, '62  
 J. C. McNair, Maryland  
 George A. Nandichle, New Jersey, '69  
 J. J. Robinson, New York, '71  
 G. E. Cox, Nova Scotia, '71  
 T. D. Moulton, Illinois, '75  
 L. N. Fuller, Massachusetts, '70  
 E. S. Reed, New York, '72  
 W. M. Oyler, Missouri, '75  
 Jacob North, England, '72  
 William McClain, Indiana, '65  
 A. M. Davis, Indiana, '67  
 H. J. Walsh, Ireland, '69  
 John Schmidt, Bavaria, '71  
 Eli Bates, Ohio, '74  
 J. R. Bing, Ohio, '72  
 L. P. Fisher, New York, '70  
 C. J. Heffly, Pennsylvania, '67  
 M. L. Hiltner, Pennsylvania, '69

- William Hopkins, Delaware, '71  
 Chris Rocke, Atlantic Coast, '70  
 C. E. Hedges, Illinois, '73  
 J. F. Bishop, Indiana, '70  
 J. W. Hedges, New York, '73  
 J. W. Rees, Ohio, '70  
 A. H. Masterman, West Indies, '74  
 Adam Bax, Germany, '68  
 W. W. Wilson, Pennsylvania, '71  
 John Reed, Wisconsin, '71  
 W. E. Keys, Ohio, '63  
 Eleanor G. Keys, Canada, '63  
 J. J. Butler, Newfoundland, '69  
 W. F. Little, Pennsylvania, '72  
 J. S. Gregory, Vermont, '62, first per-  
   manent settler  
 C. O. Strickland, Illinois, '69  
 John Michael, Pennsylvania, '56  
 W. L. Wilcox, West Virginia, '70  
 I. M. Raymond, New York, '71  
 O. P. Davis, Ohio, '73  
 W. H. Goodrich, New York, '70  
 R. P. R. Millar, Missouri, '84  
 M. D. Henry, Ohio, '67  
 W. E. Field, Massachusetts, '74  
 C. H. Hohmann, '69  
 T. J. Dickson, Scotland, '71  
 A. L. Frost, Iowa, '68  
 C. C. Munson, Connecticut, '70  
 H. Gardner, England, '73  
 J. R. Clark, Ohio, '74  
 J. H. North, England, '73  
 F. A. Hovey, New York, '69  
 G. F. Hodges, Iowa, '67  
 S. K. Hale, Ohio, '75  
 Nels Westover, Canada, '70  
 C. H. Castor, Ohio, '73  
 J. H. Bullock, New York, '73  
 H. Vanderpool, New York, '72  
 W. E. Hardy, New York, '71  
 W. G. Bohanan, Illinois, '69  
 T. H. Hyde, Vermont, '68  
 W. G. Roberts, New York, '73  
 J. F. Cadman, Illinois, '59  
 G. R. Wolf, Prussia, '73  
 Cyrus Carter, Ohio, '65  
 George Wornholz, Germany, '68  
 S. W. Gettier, Pennsylvania, '69  
 R. Schneider, Switzerland, '71  
 A. G. Barnes, Ohio, '74  
 E. A. Morgan, New York, '70  
 A. G. Hastings, Connecticut, '69  
 J. P. Loder, Ohio, '57  
 Robert McCartney, Illinois, '69  
 J. M. Meyers, Ohio, '69  
 J. M. Tiger, New Jersey, '67  
 Oscar Lau, Pennsylvania, '67  
 Hiram Polly, New York, '74  
 W. J. Harris, Ohio, '65  
 A. S. Williams, Massachusetts, '68  
 Henry Townson, England, '74  
 W. D. Gulick, New Hampshire, '72  
 J. E. Philpott, Indiana, '67  
 J. H. White, England, '69  
 L. B. Freeman, New York, '73  
 B. F. McCall, New York, '66  
 J. Wheeler, Ohio, '68  
 P. O'Shea, Canada, West, '71  
 Gottlieb Meyer, Germany, '73  
 D. D. Helweg, Germany, '73  
 James Kane, Ireland, '71  
 J. H. Ames, Vermont, '69  
 E. C. Ames, Nebraska, '75  
 Kate Martin, Ireland, '67  
 W. J. Lamb, New York, '68  
 C. C. Burr, Illinois, '68  
 M. W. Sargent, New York, '74  
 W. C. Davis, Indiana, '70  
 W. T. Scott, England, '72  
 J. N. Larsh, Indiana, '70  
 D. E. Prey, New York, '56  
 William Krueger, Iowa, '69  
 V. A. Markle, Canada, '68  
 R. R. Tingley, New Jersey, '68  
 Laurena Tingley, New York, '68  
 Jackson Johnson, Tennessee, '69  
 F. R. Denton, Ohio, '67  
 W. M. Seeley, Illinois, '73  
 S. G. Owen, Ohio, '70  
 Thomas Carr, Ireland, '74  
 W. C. Spencer, Vermont, '69  
 Frank Chaffee, Ohio, '73  
 A. N. Burd, Pennsylvania, '65  
 M. L. Trester, Indiana, '69  
 J. O. Carter, Ohio, '72  
 J. H. Harley, Nova Scotia, '71

- S. J. Douglass, New York, '75  
 John Thompson, England, '71  
 F. C. Zehrung, Iowa, '74  
 Palmer Way, Pennsylvania, '68  
 G. M. Lambertson, Indiana, '74  
 J. D. Macfarland, Pennsylvania, '71  
 M. F. McWilliams, Ohio, '69  
 R. Wallingford, Ohio, '58  
 Jerome Shamp, Ohio, '66  
 J. D. Monell, New York, '68  
 D. E. Bomgardner, Pennsylvania, '70  
 W. C. Rohde, Germany, '74  
 L. Barr, Europe, '74  
 O. N. Humphrey, Ohio, '69  
 John Sheedy, Ireland, '70  
 T. J. Noonan, Missouri, '70  
 J. J. Lichty, Pennsylvania, '73  
 S. P. Ritchy, Kentucky, '71  
 G. H. Simmons, England, '74  
 C. D. Jewett, New York, '71  
 H. W. Keel, Germany, '66  
 P. H. Sudduth, Ohio, '66  
 Amasa Cobb, Illinois, '69  
 G. S. Foxworthy, Indiana, '74  
 S. B. Pound, New York, '61  
 P. E. Beardsley, New York, '71  
 Nellie M. Beardsley, Iowa, '71  
 J. P. Beardsley, Nebraska, '74  
 W. A. Doggett, Massachusetts, '75  
 G. W. Lee, Illinois, '74  
 L. Stewart, Pennsylvania, '68  
 G. B. Skinner, Connecticut, '70  
 L. C. Pace, Virginia, '75  
 H. C. Meadows, West Virginia, '70  
 W. W. Webster, Ohio, '69  
 L. H. Robbins, Illinois, '69  
 T. W. Lowrey, Illinois, '71  
 F. W. Krone, Germany, '69  
 H. A. Poston, Virginia, '75  
 J. A. Wallingford, Ohio, '54  
 David May, France, '69  
 C. F. Danrow, Indiana, '68  
 George Leavitt, England, '70  
 L. J. Bumstead, Connecticut, '71  
 D. N. Syford, Pennsylvania, '74  
 E. Eisler, Germany, '73  
 Almon Tower, Minnesota, '73  
 ——— Waltemade, Germany, '71  
 J. H. Barrett, Vermont, '70  
 Jacob Rocke, Germany, '69  
 W. S. Latta, Pennsylvania, '73  
 J. C. McBride, Ohio, '74  
 D. B. Howard, Indiana, '74  
 W. M. Leonard, Illinois, '74  
 M. B. Cheney, New York, '69  
 O. C. Bell, Indiana, '72  
 J. J. Deck, Wisconsin, '68  
 W. C. Griffith, Pennsylvania, '69  
 T. M. Marquett, Ohio, '74  
 F. M. Hall, Illinois, '76  
 A. J. Guthridge, Ohio, '68  
 Lewis Gregory, Connecticut, '75  
 W. A. Cadman, Illinois, '59  
 E. Hallett, Massachusetts, '71  
 H. J. Byam, New York, '70  
 J. R. Webster, New York, '69  
 D. G. Courtney, New York, '74  
 S. M. Melick, New Jersey, '70  
 J. H. McMurtry, Indiana, '71  
 C. E. Loomis, New York, '71  
 W. E. Stewart, Indiana, '60  
 T. H. McGahey, Pennsylvania, '72  
 J. J. Imhoff, Pennsylvania, '72  
 Eugene Woerner, Germany, '71  
 H. A. Ensign, Iowa, '70  
 A. D. Baker, Ohio, '74  
 M. E. Chevront, Virginia, '72  
 E. P. Childe, New York, '75  
 J. P. Lyons, New York, '74  
 Wm. Brokelmeyer, Germany, '74  
 J. T. Beach, Ohio, '68  
 B. Ringer, Ohio, '68  
 A. Bolar, Ohio, '68  
 Carl Funke, Germany, '68  
 C. Wisner, Holland, '68  
 Charles Philpott, Nebraska, '75  
 H. D. Pierson, Indiana, '68  
 Ed Franklin, Ohio, '72  
 John Franklin, Ohio, '72  
 Flora Frost Snell, Iowa, '68  
 Mrs. C. Paine, England, '73  
 S. C. F. McKesson, Illinois, '67  
 S. W. McKesson, Pennsylvania, '67  
 Mrs. J. C. Johnston, New York, '75  
 John F. Wittstruck, Illinois, '70  
 H. H. Leavitt, Missouri, '74

- John Gieser, Germany, '69  
Mrs. E. C. Martin, England, '71  
S. W. Knight, Ohio, '74  
H. C. Foster, Pennsylvania, '69  
John Burke, Ireland, '70  
D. W. Huff, Michigan, '70  
William Hogan, Illinois, '70  
Theo. Benninghoff, Pennsylvania, '69  
T. J. Crawford, Ohio, '66  
W. T. Shuckman, Pennsylvania, '70  
William Wilson, Massachusetts, '71  
B. H. Hollister, New York, '73  
A. Ward, Maryland, '69  
James Brown, Kentucky, '72  
George Bosselman, Germany, '72  
Mary G. Cochran, Ohio, '67  
R. P. Beecher, New York, '69  
William Wilson, England, '78  
G. H. Exley, England, '71  
J. Burkendorf, Missouri, '72  
Zack Hammel, Ohio, '71  
L. Leavitt, Ohio, '71  
Howard W. Caldwell, Ohio, '74  
Allen Barber, Rhode Island, '73  
D. A. Gilbert, New York, '72  
Mrs. H. A. Tuttle, Massachusetts, '71  
Mrs. A. C. Clark, Illinois, '71  
George C. Spencer, England, '71  
E. E. Gillespie, Nebraska, '69  
Charles F. Joers, Germany, '74  
Manuel Davey, Illinois, '64  
A. Hitchcock, Canada, '70  
Mrs. Duke Beal, New York, '75  
Anthony Gregg, New York, '71  
C. W. Pierce, New York, '71  
C. S. Cadwallader, Ohio, '66  
W. J. Weller, Ohio, '69  
W. L. Hermance, Nebraska, '74  
C. C. Waldo, New York, '75  
Isaac Oppenheimer, Germany, '70  
Rev. D. Kinney, Ohio, '71  
Henry Veith, Germany, '69  
Mrs. H. Veith, Germany, '72  
Katie Veith, Lincoln, '74  
Henry Veith, Jr., Lincoln, '72  
P. H. Cooper, '65  
John Hermance, '72  
L. W. Billingsley, '69  
Oren Snyder, Wisconsin, '62  
Major Moore, North Carolina, '74  
John G. Stine, New Jersey, '68  
George Seifert, Germany, '72  
Pat McGerr, Ireland, '69  
R. J. Campbell, Ohio, '72  
Sam Arbuckle, Illinois, '75  
Celestine Theibeaut, France, '71  
G. H. Butler, England, '71  
R. H. Oakey, New York, '70  
Andrew Bayless, Tennessee, '72  
W. P. Phillips, Ohio, '71  
N. S. Harwood, Michigan, '71  
P. J. Grant, Ireland, '69  
Charles W. Woodward, Iowa, '74  
J. F. Egger, Switzerland, '71  
Wm. B. Harlow, New York, '72  
Mrs. Jennie May, New York, '67  
H. T. Davis, Ohio, '67  
G. H. Augdin, West Virginia, '75  
J. P. Munson, Kentucky, '66  
John Naderhoff, Illinois, '70  
James Giles, England, '69  
E. S. Hudson, England, '69  
Solomon Kirk, Tennessee, '57  
W. E. Bates, Michigan, '74  
John Lemke, Wisconsin, '59  
S. Westerfield, Missouri, '72  
G. W. Pleasant, North Carolina, '74  
John Gesler, Iowa, '68  
Joel N. Converse, Ohio, '70  
S. J. Dobson, '71  
M. W. Griswold, New York, '69  
Herman M. Reeves, New York, '70  
Dr. W. Queen, '60  
W. J. Knowlton, '69  
Henry Waterman, '70  
Wm. Robertson, '71  
Myron Tower, '68  
W. W. Carder, '67  
Thomas Hornby, '74  
W. Smith, '70  
A. L. Pound, '66  
G. C. Hickox, '72  
J. J. Hunt, '69  
Michael Noonan, '69  
H. H. Wilson, '73  
J. P. Hebard, Connecticut, '69

N. Carpenter, '69  
 F. H. Bohanan, '68  
 D. A. Cline, '70  
 T. R. Burling, '68  
 Isaac Johnson, '71  
 W. W. English, '71  
 M. D. Tiffany, '70  
 Wm. M. McLaughlin, '68  
 John Morrison, '69  
 J. L. McConnell, '58  
 C. Kellar, '69  
 John Dee, '56  
 Thomas Maloy, '67  
 John W. Crist, '71

E. W. Rykert, '67  
 Levi Small, '69  
 E. G. Clements, '69  
 Alexander Buchanan  
 C. H. Gere  
 George Gardner  
 L. J. Byre  
 W. W. Holmes  
 Louis Helmer  
 D. J. Hunt.  
 J. A. Leonard  
 J. F. Erecson  
 Ira J. Hunt

In 1889 Mr. T. H. Hyde, editor and founder of the Lincoln Daily News, compiled a list of business and professional men who were engaged in business prior to 1875 and continued at that time. This list follows:

Rev. H. T. Davis, Methodist minister.  
 L. K. Holmes, manufacturer of brick.  
 J. B. and E. L. Trickey, watchmakers and jewelers.  
 Leopold Barr, same.  
 Bohanan Brothers, meat market, livery and sale stables, hacks, omnibusses, etc.  
 William Hyatt and Frank Rawlins, same.  
 W. H. Brown, W. J. Turner, J. H. Harley, druggists.  
 W. N. Rehlaender, pharmacist.  
 J. and D. Newman, dry goods.  
 Fred Schmidt, dry goods and general merchandise.  
 L. H. Robbins, M. D.  
 James Ledwith, grocer.  
 William D. Gulick, baker and grocer.  
 Henry Veith, baker and grocer.  
 William Harlow, baker.  
 Charles Spicer, grocer.  
 J. A. Bailey, house painter and decorator.  
 Hunphrey Brothers, hardware and farm implements.  
 Raymond Brothers, wholesale grocers.  
 A. S. Godfrey, C. C. Munson, lumber.  
 J. W. Hedges, founder.  
 H. W. Hardy, furniture.  
 A. E. Hargreaves, retail grocer and also wholesale.  
 E. G. Clements, photography.  
 S. H. King, dental surgeon.  
 F. H. Hohmann & Sons, musical instruments and teaching.  
 A. M. Davis, carpets, etc.  
 P. H. Cooper, ice.  
 D. L. Peckham, L. J. Byer, Sam McCord, carpenters and contractors.

J. J. Butler, architect and builder.  
J. P. Lantz, J. F. Lansing, real estate and insurance.  
J. H. McMurtry, same.  
J. H. Woodworth, saddler.  
J. E. Philpott, S. B. Pound, C. C. Burr, S. J. Tuttle, Harwood & Ames, J. H. Foxworthy, T. M. Marquett, L. W. Billingsley, T. F. Barnes, W. J. Lamb, attorneys.  
R. L. Smith, machinist.  
David May, A. Hurlburt, clothiers.  
John Morrison, John McWhinnie and C. F. Damrow, tailors.  
T. W. Lowrey, grain elevator.  
R. C. Manley, fruit, cigars, etc.  
Louie Meyer, dry goods.  
E. T. Roberts, undertaker.  
George Seifert and George E. Fischer, harness and saddles.  
J. A. Buckstaff, lumber.  
Joseph Whitman, harness.

## CHAPTER XXXI

### REMINISCENCES

The following reminiscences are, in greater part, taken from the Lancaster County Plat Book, published in 1907.

JOHN W. PREY

Could you look back to June, 1856, you might see a canvas top wagon, to which was attached a span of horses at the pole and a yoke of oxen in the lead, wending its way along buffalo trails and crossing unbridged streams. Its objective point being the Valley of Salt Creek, Nebraska, then a part of the great American desert. Its occupants, the pioneer settlers of what is now Lancaster County.

In the spring of 1856 my father, John D. Prey, a Scotchman by birth, accompanied by myself, John W. Prey, started west from Milwaukee, Wis., to seek a location, expecting to locate at or near Council Bluffs, Ia. We went by boat to Chicago, from there by rail to Alton, Ill., and from there by steamboat to St. Louis and Council Bluffs. At the latter place we fell in with Zebediah Buffington, who, with his family, were also seeking a location, his conveyance being a good span of horses and wagon. With him we concluded to travel and crossed the river to Omaha. Here we purchased an ox team for which we paid \$105. They were placed ahead of the horses and a start was made for the Elkhorn Valley. On our arrival there, finding that section of the country too much occupied and hearing that there was a large body of timber on Salt Creek, south of the Platte, we headed this way, and entered Lancaster County from the north and on the night of June 15th struck camp on Salt Creek about three miles south of where the City of Lincoln is now situated.

At that point we found a rude log house that had just been erected by some land hunters from about Plattsmouth, among them James Cardwell, Simon Thrapp, a man named Whitman and others, seven in all. We had met them on their way out, as we were coming in. They had been staking out all the best claims from about where the Village of Hickman is now located north along Salt Creek to the salt basins. We supposed these people would soon become permanent residents, but found later that they only held their claims for sale.

Mr. Buffington took a claim on Salt Creek about one mile north of where the Village of Roca is now situated, remained a short time and returned East. Our claims were located in what is now Centerville Precinct, on the west branch of Salt Creek. The claim of John D. Prey was on section 34 and John W. on section 24. We also staked out claims for my four brothers, Thomas R. Prey's



being on section 25. After we had filed our claims, my father returned to Wisconsin for the rest of the family. I remained with Mr. Buffington and during the absence of my father assisted him in erecting the log house. The first Fourth of July we spent on the American desert was in cutting and hauling logs for this cabin.

The family arrived July 26th. The first move to be made then was to build a bridge across Salt Creek to enable us to get to our claims, which was a short job for seven strong and hardy pioneers, and was completed in one day. We next set posts in the ground, around which was stretched common muslin; a roof was formed of brush and hay, and our first temporary dwelling on section 24 was complete. This answered for a shelter for the family from the sun and the rain for a period of six weeks, during which time we completed our first log cabin and had put up a considerable amount of hay. By the time winter set in we had secured for ourselves reasonably comfortable quarters.

The winter of 1856-7 is known the country over as the winter of the deep snow. The first three days of December were probably the most severe days of blizzard ever experienced in this section of the country. When the storm was over the snow was over two feet deep in the timber and the draws and creeks were on a level with the high ground.

Game was quite plentiful at that time. Our meat during the winter consisted almost entirely of venison and wild turkey, which were easily captured on account of the severe cold and the extreme depth of the snow.

The following spring quite an addition was made to the neighborhood. Among the settlers were J. L. Davison, Joseph Weeks, John G. Haskins, James Goodwin, C. L. Bristol and others. John Davis, a bachelor, also located on the creek about eight miles south of the present site of Lincoln. He made his brags that he would shoot an Indian before he left Salt Creek. One day, very uncalled for, he resented the entrance of two marauding Pawnees, and killed one of them. This aroused the wrath of the Indians, and the settlers made a quick trip to Weeping Water and Missouri River points, without stopping to pack up their belongings. A few weeks later, on their return to their claims, they found that three miles north of Prey's the Indians had rifled, breaking and destroying anything they could not use. Clocks were torn to pieces and scattered about. The contents of straw and feather beds could be found strewn all over the prairie.

We left our claims, and upon our arrival at Weeping Water we found several settlers there from all sections of the country. Major Downs from Nebraska City was acting as military instructor. After a few days scouts were sent out, who encountered one lone Indian, who was brought in as prisoner of war. John W. Prey and two others were stationed guard over him, and were instructed to shoot without mercy if any attempt was made to escape. In the evening, however, the fellow made some desperate efforts in that direction. Several shots were fired, none of which took effect. It was then discovered that one man had been standing guard without a load in his gun. The Indian escaped, none the worse for bad marksmanship of the guards.

When the excitement had subsided and the settlers began to feel a desire to return to their claims, Cicero L. Bristol and myself were delegated to precede the return of the others and see if the coast was clear for their return. This we did and after a day and a half walk we arrived at our destination and found

that there were no Indians in the country. Ten days later, on our return from a short hunting expedition, we were surprised to find about our house a large company of Government surveyors, sitting about, smoking their pipes and making themselves generally at home. During that summer, 1857, they surveyed this section of the country and remained until late in the fall.

In the spring of 1859 the Indians were quite troublesome. One Indian was shot that spring by a man named Garritt, about two miles southwest of the present site of Sprague. Farther down the creek considerable trouble was experienced. The settlers succeeded, however, in routing the Indians, driving them clear to the Platte River, and obliging them to swim the stream to get away.

In July, 1859, a band of Redskins came through our section. At our house there was no one about except my mother, my brother David, then about sixteen, and my youngest sister, Rebecca, then about thirteen. The girl was badly frightened and tried to conceal herself in a wheat field. She was soon discovered, however, and taken by the Indians, who started away with her. Mother, however, had sent brother David down the creek about one mile where four men were at work, to notify them that their assistance was needed. Seeing the girl taken by the Indians, mother concluded to accompany her. They were headed down the creek toward where the men were working. They had proceeded not to exceed a quarter of a mile when they discovered the men and the boy returning. The Indians, seeing they were about to be resisted, allowed the girl to accompany her mother home, and the Indians went their way.

CHARLES L. RETZLAFF

In the fall of 1858 Joseph Gilmore and wife, Robert Farmer, Henry Pettit and myself fitted out three wagons, consisting of three yoke of oxen to each wagon, in Walworth County, Wisconsin, and started for the "American Desert," then the Territory of Nebraska. It took seven weeks to make the trip, which was filled with many incidents of hardship. The streams were then unbridged, and at nearly every one of them we were obliged to swim our oxen and considered ourselves very lucky many times that they were not drowned. We crossed the Mississippi at a small town above Dubuque and got along fairly well until we reached the Skunk Bottoms in Iowa. These were crossed in what is now Jasper County. They were wide, muddy and covered with water for a distance of nearly three miles. Our route we picked out by means of a boat, one man going ahead and sounding, sticking stakes, with rags or grass on the top, where it seemed most safe.

One of the early pioneers of Jasper County, in speaking of this route across the bottom says: "In 1859 this same road was lined from morning to night, week in and week out, with Pike's Peakers, and during the entire season the bottoms were almost impassable. The amount of real suffering they caused is almost beyond human understanding. If you will go to Denver, Colo., and attend the meeting of the fifty-miners you will be sure to hear some horrible stories of misery and suffering while crossing the Skunk Bottoms." We succeeded in crossing, however, only to encounter other obstacles almost as bad.

At the Des Moines River, at Ft. Des Moines, our cattle were carried by the current and landed about one-half mile below our starting point. The Missouri

River was crossed at Plattsmouth on a ferry boat. After crossing the "Big Muddy" we remained for a few days about Plattsmouth, and then pushed farther west, our objective point being the Valley of Salt Creek.

We struck Lancaster County on the old Mormon trail and stopped at Salt Creek just above where Waverly stands, and where we found a shanty inhabited by John Loder. The prairies were broad and barren of trees and as void of settlement. Nearly every pioneer coming from the east thought he must have a claim with some timber, therefore most of the early settlers located along the streams. We spent some time in this locality looking for suitable locations. Joseph Gilmore located near Loder's, making some improvements the following spring, where he remained for a few years and went to freighting for a Mr. Porter from Plattsmouth to Denver. Robert Farmer also located near Loder's and made Lancaster County his home until a few years ago, when he removed to Kansas. Henry Pettit remained in Plattsmouth for a number of years, then took land in Lancaster County, buying out the Captain Donovan claim. After a few weeks' stay here, I came up to the mouth of Stevens Creek, and gave \$50 for a claim of 160 acres, the east one-half of the southeast quarter of section 5, and the west one-half of the southwest quarter of section 4, buying it from a man named Brown. After placing two logs for a foundation for a cabin, I filed my claim and returned to Wisconsin. During the winter I was married, and the following spring, accompanied by my brother Carl, Peter Gardner and John Lemke, I again started West to establish a permanent home. On our arrival here my companions, not finding timber enough in this section, located in different parts of the state, my brother at Table Rock and the others in Pawnee County.

We supposed when we first took our claims here that we would have the use of them for at least a year or two before they would come into market. The following year we understood they would soon be on the market, and many of the settlers, not possessing money enough to buy land and make improvements too, the latter suffered very materially. Our first crop consisted of a few potatoes, some melons and pumpkins. In the spring of 1860 our land not having been sold from us, we made some substantial improvements. I broke out seven acres and planted it to corn, chopping it into the sod with an axe. This crop was an entire failure owing to the dry season. I succeeded, however, in raising a four-acre patch of wheat that went sixty bushels to the acre. Fifteen bushels of this was traded for corn, which we had ground into meal. This, with our wheat, furnished out breadstuffs until the following crop, prairie chickens supplying us with meat.

Indians were plenty in those days, but all were friendly. The only thing I ever knew of their doing was to kill a neighbor's cow, which they cut to pieces and carried away. We had one Indian scare in 1862, when it was reported that the Indians were going to drive all the whites from Nebraska. Many of the settlers left their homes and went to Nebraska City. I loaded my rifle, a single shot affair, after which I felt secure from a thousand redskins, remained on my claim and never saw an Indian.

Now that we have ourselves located we will look around a bit. Our market place was Nebraska City, our mill at Weeping Water. It would take five days to go to market and three days to go to mill. These were some of the disadvantages

of pioneer life, but there were as many advantages and the pioneer that stayed by his claim, almost to the man, succeeded well.

W. J. WELLER

August 1, 1869, found the writer with his wife and two small children in Greenwood, Neb., doing grading on the B. and M. Railroad. After viewing the beautiful prairies that surrounded us, we concluded that Nebraska would eventually be our permanent home. I tried to induce some of my Eastern Iowa friends to come to the same conclusion, but, as they were reasonably well fixed at their homes, they declined my kind invitation. I left Greenwood, which was then simply a camping place, September 1st, for, I knew not where. Our conveyance was a mule team and wagon. On arriving at Lincoln, which was then a town of about seventy houses, we concluded to stop and find what we could learn. I met a man by the name of Elijah Hull, and after explaining to him that I was looking for a range for cattle, he informed me it was not necessary to go outside of the bounds of Lancaster County to find good land, and plenty of range, and invited me to call at his house which was then on section 20, in what is now Little Salt Precinct. The following day we started for his place and on our way there we stopped at the house of Alva Brown. His wife, after finding out what we were in pursuit of, informed us that if we wished to raise cattle in that location we would not make a mistake, but in general farming she believed we would starve to death, as it was considered then that no grain could be raised outside of the valley land in Nebraska. We followed Oak Creek and found Seth Linderman and Silas Pratt living where the Village of Raymond is now situated. Further on we found Ezen Tullis on the farm now owned by Willard Kenyon. We stayed that night with a man named Laymond; that was the first night I ever stayed in a dug-out. We resumed our journey the next morning and on crossing the divide between Oak Creek and Little Salt we got a grand view of the latter; not a house or a living thing in sight. The creek was skirted here and there with cotton-wood, ash, box-elder and plum thickets, an ideal place for stock raising. On arriving at Mr. Hull's we found them located in a large dug-out. We traveled three days looking for land, located the north half of section 20, 12, 6, and returned to Lincoln. In November I went to Plattsmouth for lumber. On my return I found that a claim had been taken on section 8 by Joseph Carter and a small shanty erected. Another claim had been made on section 28.

My shanty was completed in December and when we moved in the floor, which was Mother Earth, was considerably frozen. When the fire was made we soon had a mortar bed to walk through. This became dry, however, in a few days. That winter I spent in cutting and hauling wood, which I borrowed from the B. and M. Railroad land, and which has not, to this day, been returned. There were plenty of deer and antelope at that time, but as I was not a successful hunter very little of my time was spent in hunting. The following year I succeeded in raising twenty acres of wheat and ten of oats, but when harvest time came we were entirely out of eatables and only a \$2 bill in the pocketbook. How to secure the necessaries of life for a time was a question. This, however, was again solved by again borrowing a cord of wood, which was hauled to Lincoln and

sold for \$9 to Charles Griffith. I came home that night loaded down with catables and was happy.

My first trip to mill was in October, 1870. I loaded forty bushels of wheat and started at 3 A. M. That night I became lost on the prairie and slept under the wagon. On my arrival at Milford the next morning, I found the mill with plenty of grain to grind for six weeks. I then drove to Camden, where I found I could get my grist ground within the next ten days. I borrowed 100 pounds of flour and returned home, having spent three days on the trip.

In 1872 we had a fair prospect for small grain; corn, however, had suffered considerably by the drouth. About the 1st of August the grasshoppers came by the multiplied millions, which sounded like a train of cars and in such dense clouds as to obscure the sun. Most of the wheat was in the shock but was damaged very materially by these pests. No pen can thoroughly describe the trouble they caused. They would fall into the well in such quantities as to render the water unfit for use, and apparently in no way could you guard against their ravages. Cottonwoods two and three years old would be bent to the ground by their weight.

The winter of '73 and '74 was a trying time for the settlers. It was a problem to obtain the necessities of life for both man and beast. Horses were fed their grain by measuring it out with tin cups instead of peck measures. The crops raised in those days, if they could be set beside the crops of today, would give the present generation a much better idea of the hardships passed through, than can be given in a pen picture.

#### WILLIAM KRULL

The traveler, in passing through Centerville Precinct and seeing the large and well managed farms, commodious houses and barns, churches, villages and schoolhouses, and all other things which make life a pleasure, never fails to receive a favorable impression of this section of Lancaster County. The present condition of the precinct, however, is not a matter of luck, but it is the fruits of many years of persistent hard labor, combined with hardships and sometimes of untold hard suffering, which was endured by the pioneers, the present generation following up with energy and zeal, assisted with modern machinery.

In the year 1863 the parents of the writer of this article cast their lot among the settlers of Centerville Precinct. The quarter section taken by Frederick Krull, as a homestead, is still the home of his widow and part of the family.

From 1864 the emigration from the East became steady. They came from Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, mostly from the two latter states. Many only stayed one or two years, and packed up their few belongings, which in every instance was less than it was when they came, and returned East. Many more would have left but were too poor to get away. It required more courage than a great many of them possessed to stand up under the hardships which they had to bear. The country was a wild wilderness in which deer, antelope, wild cats and catamount roamed in abundance. White men were scarce, while Sioux Indians were plentiful. Houses were a thing unknown with the exception of an occasional log hut. The others were dug-outs. One would hardly question, under these circumstances, why the people should become

disheartened. My father constructed his dug-out in the middle of December, but did not get it quite finished, when on Christmas Day a heavy shower of rain filled it with water to the depth of a foot. That night it turned bitter cold and in a short time the water was frozen solid. There was no thought of finishing the digging until the following spring. There was nothing left to do but move in as it was, so on the 7th of January, 1803, in the most severe kind of winter weather, the family, which consisted of father, mother and two small children, moved into their humble quarters. Rude as it all seemed, they had the satisfaction of knowing that it was their own home, something they had never possessed up to that time. Instead of springs and a comfortable mattress to sleep upon, they covered the ice in the dug-out with hay and a few old blankets, and spent their first night without a fire, a night never to be forgotten. The suffering was intense, for all the clothing that could be spared was given to the children. In thinking back over it now they say, "It seems like a long, miserable nightmare." The following day a fireplace was built in the corner, and by keeping a good fire they managed to get the ice warmed up enough so that it could be broken up in chunks and carried out. The following spring the dug-out was completed and served as a shelter for the family for over seven years, when they began the construction of the present house, which was built entirely of limestone. The stone was quarried near Roca and two years elapsed before the stone was on the ground ready for the building. All the lime used in its construction was burned by my father. He had no thought of buying anything which he could make himself, as money was scarce and all other building material must be hauled from Nebraska City, nearly sixty miles distant. There were only two loads of lumber used in the entire building and that was the only material that required a cash expenditure. The poorest grade of lumber cost at that time from seventy-five to ninety dollars per thousand.

Let us go back to the days of dug-outs and consider some of the hardships endured. It must be said that the wives and mothers suffered as many hardships and, in many cases, more, than the men. It was only too often that they were, from necessity, left at home alone with the children; their greatest fear in those times was of Indians. About twice a year the men would go to Nebraska City for supplies and the mail, for it was also their postoffice. At those times it seemed the Indians invariably made their appearance, and the fear that was experienced by those left at home is beyond description. About one-half of the male population in the neighborhood would go to the city at the same time. It was not considered safe for one or two men to attempt the trip alone, as any small squad of Indians could have overpowered them. On the other hand, the more that went on those trips, the weaker was the force which was left at home. It was often hard to decide which was better, to take or leave the strongest force.

It was in the latter '60s when the Indians seemed the most hostile; all the white settlers were continually ready to fly for their lives at a moment's notice. The team of our family were not unharnessed at one time for three weeks. No one thought of undressing when going to bed as it would occupy too much time to get ready for flight in case it was necessary.

Next to the Indians, prairie fires were most to be feared. Many were the poor settlers who saw the fruits of several years' hard labor go up in flames in

a few short hours. One family named Bouten, who had their dug-out near the north line of section 26, had all that they possessed destroyed in this manner. The lady, with her little six-hour-old baby boy, was removed in all haste to a log hut about a mile distant. The child survived the shock but the mother died a week later.

Another great obstacle in the farmer's way in those days was to market his produce. It must either be taken to Nebraska City or sold to freighters. The north line of Centerville Precinct is a portion of the old freight road between Nebraska City and Denver. The freighters were the fellows to sell to, but their coming was a little uncertain. Settlers often took garden stuff, corn, oats, wheat, pork, etc., and hauled them as far as Fort Kearney. The prices received for them were always very satisfactory, but the going and coming required a week's time.

Advancement made rapid stride until the latter '60s and early '70s, when there came a shock from which recovery seemed next to impossible. The grasshoppers at this time made their appearance, and in the west it looked as if a heavy thunder shower was coming up. The sun was entirely hidden from view and as they came over and fell upon the ground all vegetation disappeared in a few hours. Large and small trees were soon stripped of their leaves. Clothing that happened to be out was devoured by them. They were so thick that a B. and M. train was stopped by them near Hickman. Their crushed bodies were like so much grease on the track, which caused the wheels to slip and the engine unable to do its work. Not only did they destroy the crops at this time, but deposited their eggs, and for the four years that followed it was almost impossible to raise anything. The little hoppers were on hand to take the crop as soon as it peeped through the ground. The spring of the fifth year, 1877, was very wet and the grasshopper was exterminated. Corn was worth at this time 95 cents to \$1.50 a bushel. One farmer in Centerville Precinct mortgaged his best team to pay his hired man. The good years that followed placed the people on better footing and the grasshopper years became a matter of history.

Going to mill was a trial to the early settler. For a short time there was a mill at Beatrice, which soon burned down, after which all milling was done either at Ashland, Weeping Water or Milford. Weeping Water seemed to be the favorite place. At these places the grinding was on the principle of "first come, first served," and many are the instances the settlers relate of being obliged to wait from a week to ten days for their grist, oftentimes their lunch baskets running low. Mr. Crozier, Mr. Iler and Mr. Krull had at one time an experience of this kind, and for several days subsisted upon bread that they received from the miller's wife by chopping wood for it, and on the legs of bullfrogs caught out of the stream. During this experience their families at home fared equally poor as provisions were low there also. My mother and the children lived for over a week at that time on nothing but roasting ears.

The first death in Centerville Precinct was a girl from a family named Brown, who lived on the north half of section 22. She was buried a short distance from the house on the banks of a small stream. As there were no cemeteries in those days, nearly all burials were made on private ground. This girl is still resting where she was first placed. On the northeast quarter of section 26 three children were buried in the early '70s, one of which still remains where it was placed.

On the southwest quarter of section 13 three bodies are buried, and it is doubtful if there is any one living today who knows the exact location of these graves.

The first election was held in a little log schoolhouse located on the northeast quarter of section 22 in 1866. Prior to that time there were hardly enough men in the precinct to comprise an election board. There were many hard-fought battles in and about that little schoolhouse, the republicans coming out victorious each year until 1890, when the populists gained the day.

The first church organization was made by the German Methodists in 1869. They soon built a small church on the northeast corner of section 21. In the early '80s it was taken down and replaced by a more commodious structure. In 1874 the German Lutherans organized with a large membership and built a large and handsome church on the southeast quarter of section 35. In 1891 the Presbyterian denomination built a church on section 28. In 1900 the English Methodist Episcopal organized and used the schoolhouse in District No. 85.

In the early days the education of the youth was sadly neglected. For a number of years there was but one small log schoolhouse in the entire precinct. Today, however, there are five, well equipped and well attended.

The first railroad in the precinct was built in 1888 by the Missouri Pacific, a branch extending from Auburn to Crete.

#### W. W. RIDDELL

The first settler in what is now Elk Precinct was Chester Crawford, who took a homestead in the northeast portion of the precinct in 1864. That fall Charles Crawford took a claim adjoining on the west branch of Oak Creek. They usually remained on their claims during the summer season, but in the winter would take their teams and go to some point on the Missouri River to secure work and earn money enough to tide them through the next season. This they followed for about three years. In 1872 Charles Crawford sold his claim to Doctor Anderson, who was the first practicing physician. Other early homesteaders were Mr. C. Beason, Wm. Breeden, W. Deagon and F. Payne.

In the early part of 1857 James Riddell and wife, accompanied by three other families, came to Nebraska and located claims about twenty miles south of the salt basins in what is now Centerville Precinct. Here they erected log houses, broke small patches of sod, in which they planted corn and potatoes. That fall a trip was made to Nebraska City, sixty miles distant, to obtain provisions. As there were no roads and the streams were yet unbridged, much time was spent in making this trip. On their return, to their dismay, they found that their corn and potatoes had been appropriated by the Indians, who had also killed and stolen most of the settlers' cattle. Later all of Mr. Riddell's stock was taken but one span of horses and one yoke of oxen. On account of the loss by the Indians and the fact that fever and ague were prevalent, most of the settlers left their claims to go to Missouri River points, traveling by night to avoid the redskins.

In March, 1865, James Riddell and family removed to Nebraska City and for a time was engaged in buying and fitting out freight teams to cross the plains to Fort Kearney. The same year he took a homestead in Lancaster County, four miles south of Lancaster, in what is now Yankee Hill Precinct, on Salt Creek.



For the harvest of 1867 he went to Nebraska City and purchased a combined McCormick reaper and mower. This machine did all the reaping and mowing in the county that year and was oiled with butter.

Farming in those days was not very lucrative; the grain when threshed was too far from the market; everything must go to the Missouri River, and from there by boat to its destination. On this account very little grain was raised, most of the settlers turning their attention to stock raising.

Wild game was plentiful when they first came to Nebraska. Antelope were numerous, and deer and wild turkey were also to be seen. The coyote and catamount were also in evidence. Mr. Riddell, not enjoying the sport of hunting, allowed his neighbor, Redman, who was a good marksman, to do the shooting while he did the hauling of the game to market, which business at times was quite profitable.

On the northeast quarter of section 2, at an early date, was found a large pile of stone supposed to have been placed there by Indians as a landmark of some kind. Later on the settlers drew the stones away to make use of them for building purposes. The last of the pile was taken by F. Payne, J. Barten and W. W. Riddell. After the stones had been removed they discovered that a hole had been dug and in it were the skeletons of four horses and six white men.

#### C. J. WARNER

Township 12, range 7, otherwise known as Rock Creek Precinct, is one of the most wealthy and populous townships of Lancaster County. It receives its name from the little stream that crosses it from the northwest to the southeast, which in turn received its name because of the stony deposits near its source in Saunders County. The surface of the eastern portion of the precinct is generally undulating, gradually growing more rolling and broken toward the west. The soil throughout is rich and fertile. The population is industrious, thrifty and prosperous. The Irish, Danes and Swedes predominate. These different nationalities have grouped themselves together into separate settlements and a review of the early days of the precinct most naturally clusters itself among the pioneers of the different groups.

Because of its distance from any of the railroad lines that first crossed the western prairies, Rock Creek cannot boast of as ancient history as some of its sister precincts, but what it lacks in age is made up in progress and development.

To the Irish undoubtedly belongs the honor of first being on the ground. A little company of the thirfty sons of Erin arrived as early as 1868 and settled in what is now the northwestern portion of the precinct. Among them were Michael O'Connor, John Dooly and Michael Davey. Also Robert McCartney, Burris Crawford, J. E. Shotwell, Samuel Kline, James Meyers, James Riddell and William Looch.

During the following years the little company of pioneers was reinforced by William Drinkwater, Warren Hallet, M. L. Trester, Jack Croy, John Wilcox, A. E. Willard, Horace Taylor, John Truell, F. Truell, S. M. Clark and Peter Melick, several of whom are still residents of the precinct.

The Danes came in for second honors, the advance guard of their class

arriving in 1870, and took up homesteads in the southwest portion of the precinct. Among those were John Johnson, Alexander Knudson, Rasmus Johnson, John Olson and Henry Hanson.

The Swedes were the last to arrive, but have steadily increased and spread until now they outnumber any of the other nationalities. The first of these light-haired sons of the North to take up their homes within the boundaries of Rock Creek were the three Warner brothers, John, C. V. and S. G. They shipped from Alton, Ill., to Omaha, by rail and from there overland to their destination, the trip taking three days. They brought with them all their earthly possessions, which consisted of three horses, a cow, one pig and an old wagon, some lumber and a few tools. On the 13th day of March, 1871, they pitched their tent on what is yet known as the S. G. Warner place, and two of them have ever since been residents of the precinct and all of them residents of the county. They set to work at once and in a few days had dug a cellar and erected a shanty 12 by 18. In 1872 this little settlement was added to in the persons of Peter Asplund, C. A. Ruddeen, Carl Anderson and some others who came in a year or two later.

The history of these early settlers, Irish, Danes and Swedes alike, is very much the same as other frontiersmen in different parts of the state. It is the same story of privation, suffering, labor and disappointment on the one hand; pluck, enterprise, hope and success on the other. The nearest towns were Lincoln, Wahoo, Waverly and Ashland. There were no roads and the streams were yet unbridged. The pioneers, as they went to market, selected their own way across the prairies and forded the streams. Corn sold in Lincoln for fuel and the price fluctuated with the temperature. A load on a bright, warm day often sold for the price of a cheap pair of boots, \$1.50.

While we have so far mentioned names of early men, let it not be forgotten that the faithful, loving and loyal wives played their important part in the settlement also. Their industrious hands provided the family with clothing and from the wild fruits gathered on the prairies prepared most appetizing delicacies. Often it fell to their lot to guard alone the little home while the husband and father was far away earning a few dollars wherewith to purchase the necessities of life.

All of the early settlers were not fortunate enough to have the help of a faithful wife. Many were young men who braved it alone. The first of these to bring a young bride into the precinct was J. M. Meyers.

Some of the early births in Rock Creek were Lena Meyers, Hattie and Julia Crawford, Charles Asplund, Allen McCartney, Hulda Warner, Selma Anderson, Frank D. Eager and S. J. Warner.

The first political meeting in the precinct is recorded as early as 1871. This meeting was held at the house of M. L. Trester. Judge S. B. Pound, M. M. O'Connor and Colonel Philpott appeared as speakers. In preparing for the meeting a flag pole was raised and a messenger dispatched to Lincoln to purchase a flag, but none was to be had. He secured some red, white and blue muslin, however, and Mrs. Trester made a flag and the feeling of patriotism was given an opportunity of expression.

The first precinct election was held in 1870, the polling place being the residence of Mr. Denton, one-half mile west of the Cameron School. Eleven votes

were cast and Michael Davey claims the honor of having cast the first democratic vote.

A daily stage passed through this section from Fremont to Lincoln in 1869, and in July, 1871, the first postoffice in the precinct was established on the southwest quarter of section 18, and was named Enterprise. M. L. Trester was the postmaster; J. G. Nesbit, assistant. A salary of about one dollar per month was paid. An average of from two to three letters per day constituted the mail.

Religious matters have not been neglected in Rock Creek. Its seven churches are indicative of the devotional character of its people. Public services were held in the precinct as early as 1871. The first church was St. Patrick's in 1876. The charter members were Edward Healy, John and Timothy Finnegan, John Mara, Michael O'Connor, Patrick McGeer, Patrick Dorr, Michael Brady and John Enright. Father Byrne was the first priest.

The English Methodists erected a church in 1888, which, in 1891, was sold to the Catholics and known as St. Mary's. Michael Davey was one of the main pillars of that organization. The Danish Lutherans began work in the fall of 1875. Rev. T. F. Heilman preached his first sermon at the house of John Olson, on section 20. From that time on regular services were held in the schoolhouse in District No. 81. In 1891 a church was erected at a cost of \$1,100. The organizers and chief workers of this church were Hans Louis, Andrew Hanson, Louis Christerson, and F. G. Everson. The latter served as chairman of the building committee. In the fall of 1890 another Danish Lutheran Church was erected at the Village of Davey and is known as the Danish Lutheran Mission. The charter members were Alexander Knudson, Peter Jacobson, Hans Larson, Henry Hansen, Andrew Hansen, James Larson and Gilbert Knudson.

The first Swedish church services were conducted by Rev. S. G. Larsen at the home of Warner brothers in 1872. From that time on Swedish pastors of various denominations visited the settlement, preaching in the different schoolhouses and at residences, but not until 1882 was there any church organization perfected. The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church was then organized, with C. A. Ruddeen, John Holmquist, John Warner, John M. Samuelson, S. G. Warner, E. Greld, E. V. Noren, C. A. Johnson, J. A. Johnson and C. G. Gustafson as charter members. Andrew Halmer was the first pastor of the church, which was erected in 1882 at a cost of \$1,100. In 1888 a parsonage was erected and N. A. Blomstrand served as the first resident pastor. He was followed by F. A. Slaberg, who served eight years. In 1901 Rev. E. Wallis took charge and the same year a \$5,000 church was erected.

The North Free Mission Church was organized in 1885 with Peter Asplund, C. W. Johnson, S. W. Warner, Peter Erlandson, E. Grell, and John Sandstrom as charter members. A church building was completed the same year on a lot donated by Peter Asplund.

The Swedish Methodist Church was built in 1894 at a cost of \$3,000. The first pastor was A. R. Melin. Charter members were S. G. Warner, Peter Peterson, Fred Anderson, August Anderson, E. Grell, H. Miller, C. W. Johnson and Peter Swanstrom.

In 1887 the Elkhorn Railroad was built through this precinct, and the Town of Davey located within its borders, named in honor of Michael Davey, on whose

land it was laid out. The first house in the new town was built by Henry Harkson. The first postmaster was Patrick O'Donnell.

#### S. A. QUINCY

Township 12, north range 8 east, now called Mill Precinct, was formerly a part of Camp Creek, which was composed of what is now Mill, the east half of Rock Creek and the north half of Waverly. Camp Creek was formed by an act of the board of supervisors April 14, 1864, and so remained until after Nebraska was admitted as a state in 1867.

In 1865 a man named Atkinson, with his sons, located on the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 35, in what is now Mill Precinct and erected a sawmill on the east side of Rock Creek. This little mill supplied the early pioneers with lumber to erect shanties on their claims and proved a boon to them. The Atkinsons soon after erected a grist mill on the west side of the creek, with one set of burrs. This was a very primitive affair but was capable of grinding all the grain the early settler could raise. This mill also proved a great benefit and was patronized for miles around.

The old Pike's Peak Trail passed through Mill Precinct. It came into the township at the southeast corner of section 1, and ran diagonally through the section, intersecting the trail from Rocky Ford, just over the north line of the section in Saunders County. The trail was traceable for several years through the growing crops, the last trace being obliterated in 1902.

In 1869 the B. and M. Railroad and the Union Pacific Railroad had been granted every alternate section of land; with this and the homestead law, which was then in effect, emigration set in in earnest. May 20th, J. L. and R. B. Graham settled on section 21 and commenced the erection of a grist mill, consisting of two runs of burrs. A rock dam was put in, which was the only safe crossing place for teams for several years. R. B. Graham afterward sold out and removed to Lincoln. The mill property was sold to J. E. Bundy.

A. N. Owen settled on the north half of the southwest quarter in pioneer days. Other pioneers were S. Parks, George Sherman, J. H. Sherman, J. W. Stewart, E. E. Lowell, J. R. Noren, N. V. Noren, J. W. Kelley, Mrs. J. Snyder, W. J. Nordstrom, J. F. Reiner, Byron Clark, J. N. Strawder, John Vosler, H. M. Almy and J. R. Long.

The Government land was soon filed upon, then commenced the sale of the railroad land, which was slower to be disposed of.

For several years Graham's Mill was a polling place for the precinct. Later a schoolhouse was erected one-half mile west of the mill, which was used for election purposes.

Vast has been the change in Mill Precinct since the pioneer first located within its borders. Instead of unbridged streams and Indian trails, the township is supplied with many miles of graded roads and good, substantial bridges, great credit for which should be given G. W. Welton. Rural mail routes place the daily mail at nearly every farmer's door in the precinct. Large dwelling houses of modern style are dotted over the different farms. The wealth of the county has increased proportionately.

P. H. Walker, residing on section 4, Waverly Precinct, came to Lancaster

County in the fall of 1865, taking a homestead on section 23. He is a native of England and came to America in 1849, and served during the Civil war from October, 1861, to the fall of 1865.

MRS. S. A. JESSUP

On the 11th day of May, 1868, my husband, Henry Jessup, with myself and two small girls, left our native state and started west to establish a home on the great rolling prairies of Nebraska. We left Erie County, Penn., on Monday and arrived over the Northwestern Railroad in Council Bluffs the following Friday at 4 o'clock P. M. The next morning we were ferried across the Missouri River at Nebraska City and by noon we had a man engaged with team and wagon to take us to our claim or ranch, as we afterward termed it. I will never forget that ride. I have enjoyed many a one since, but never one equal to that. As far as the eye could see was a great sea of waving grass, sprinkled with wild flowers of nearly every color. We arrived at our destination at 1 o'clock the following day, which was six miles southeast of Lincoln. My father-in-law, Phileste Jessup, was there waiting for us. The house on the homestead was sod, 16 by 16. There was not a tree in sight; just the bare prairie, but I don't think that any one could be happier than we were in what we called our home.

Prairie chickens were here in abundance and occasionally antelope could be seen in the distance. It was not long, however, until they disappeared entirely. The coyote, however, was very much in evidence and succeeded many times in making the nights hideous.

Our first crop was twenty acres of corn that yielded twenty-five bushels to the acre and one acre of wheat that yielded thirty bushels. The wheat was taken to the Rock Creek Mill. The miller remained up all night to grind the grist so that an early start might be had for home the following day. This furnished our breadstuffs for one year.

It was over two years after our arrival here before the B. and M. Railroad arrived at Lincoln. During these two years Mr. Jessup freighted from Lincoln to Nebraska City. It would take three days each way to make the trip and often during the winter season he would lose his way and wander about for hours before he realized the situation.

One of the things most dreaded by the early settler was the prairie fire. It was always necessary in the early fall to arrange your fire guards and be sure that they were wide enough that the flames could not jump over them. A prairie fire at night was a grand sight in a spectacular way, and especially when it was cloudy. It would almost seem that the heavens were on fire. If the wind was blowing hard where there was heavy grass, flames could lap over from forty to fifty feet.

Prior to 1874, for several years, when the wind was in the south in looking toward the sun you could almost invariably see quantities of grasshoppers flying. They never did any great damage, however, until that year. The small grain was nearly all harvested before they came, but corn and vegetables were entirely destroyed. Onions they apparently enjoyed as well as other vegetables. Commencing at the top, they would eat them clear down into the ground, leaving

nothing but the outside skin, and red peppers they would eat like a hungry boy would eat pumpkin pie.

My brother, Oscar Law, one year sowed one acre of turnips, and when they were about half grown the grasshoppers destroyed the whole patch except two turnips. When he gathered those two turnips the next fall he carried them to the house in a half-bushel measure; they were so large that the second turnip came about three or four inches above the measure. This is a true story and is given to illustrate how vegetables would grow in those days if given a chance.

Several days before the Fourth of July, 1868, all the farmers with teams and wagons went along Salt Creek and cut cottonwood boughs. These were hauled to where the business part of Lincoln is now situated. A large bowery was made about one hundred and fifty feet long and proportionately wide. Early on the morning of the Fourth the farmers and citizens of Lincoln gathered in this big enclosure, tables were arranged and at the noon hour a meal was set, consisting of nearly every good thing imaginable. After dinner a program of music was given, led by Mr. Herman Merrill. Speeches were made by Sawyer, Strump and others. Sack and foot races were indulged in and the day was spent very agreeably.

#### FRANK REJCHLA

Olive Branch Precinct is the southwest corner township in Lancaster County. About 1½ miles west of this precinct flows the Big Blue River, the valley of which is considered one of the most fertile in the state.

During the Civil war, 1861 to 1865, the Bohemian element began to settle along the Big Blue. From that day on to the present the settlement has continued to grow, until Saline County is almost entirely Bohemian, and for several years they have been pushing their way into the southwest part of Lancaster County.

One of the earliest Bohemian settlers in Olive Branch Precinct was Matias Pomaizl, who left Bohemia in May, 1867. Having fallen into the hands of an unscrupulous emigrant agent, from whom he engaged passage on a steamer, he was to his dismay, on his departure, loaded onto a sailing vessel instead, and on his arrival in Baltimore with a family of seven children, found that he had been robbed of all his household effects, even to his wearing apparel. By occupation he was a coal miner, and after hard efforts, he succeeded in securing passage to St. Louis. He found work, with his two eldest sons, in Belleville, Ill. Three years later they had laid by \$800. The tide of emigration was then toward Nebraska and Mr. Pomaizl concluded to follow the throng. They came to Nebraska City by rail; there he purchased a team of horses for \$305, a wagon for \$80, a breaking plow for \$30 and a stove that cost him \$35. After loading in a few necessary provisions, they started West and the fifth day out arrived at Beatrice. Learning that the Bohemian settlement was thirty miles north, he started out and arrived there April 5, 1870, and proceeded to take a homestead. He soon discovered that several of his neighbors were without horses or oxen which proved quite an advantage to him. He was constantly employed in hauling provisions from Nebraska City, seventy-five miles distant, and going to Beatrice to mill. There being a scarcity of money among the settlers, he took for his services any farm product the settler could spare.

Mr. J. Smith arrived in Olive Branch early in the spring of 1870, coming from Iowa. After using his homestead right, he started working for the B. and M. Railroad, which was then being built from Omaha to Denver.

Others that should be mentioned as early settlers in this locality are Joseph Letak, Joseph Jistka, Louis Jiskra, Joseph Shindelar, Frank and John Chrastil, F. Pavlik and Mateas Vancura.

Mr. Joseph Janeczek arrived in Olive Branch in June, 1870, from Cleveland, Ohio. He purchased a yoke of oxen for \$150, a wagon for \$50 and a cow that cost him the same amount, and was rid of his money. He commenced breaking the prairie sod and succeeded in turning over ten acres. Their dwelling was a shanty. His only daughter, Rosie, was working in the city, and by turning over her weekly wages, materially assisted the old people.

#### JOHN W. STEWART

I located on my homestead in what is now Mill Precinct in 1871. There were but two houses to be seen between my place and Ashland, and the nearest one a distance of six miles. In 1871 I broke fifty acres of prairie and planted it to corn. That crop when harvested averaged twenty-eight bushels. The next year the same ground was sown to wheat, which went 34½ bushels to the acre. This was sold for \$1.10 per bushel.

We were here during the grasshopper raid and have seen them in such clouds as to obscure the sun. When they lit the ground would be covered and the trees loaded down with their weight. Those were days of picnics for chickens, turkeys and ducks.

Game was nearly as plentiful at times as the grasshoppers. I had ten acres of corn ruined one year by wild geese. They were hard to get rid of and I found that setting steel traps and catching them would frighten the others away better than shooting. The sand hill cranes were there by the thousand and, if anything, were worse than the geese. The antelope and deer could be found in this section in small herds. The buffalo, however, had migrated farther west. Each fall hunting parties would be made up and would spend from a month to six weeks in hunting the "King of the Desert." They were killed principally for their hides, their meat being left upon the ground.

In the early days the prairie fire was a great source of trouble to the pioneer, and unless he took the precaution to put out fire guards about his premises, they were almost sure to be destroyed in the fall. Many a death has been caused by them and many a race has been run to keep out of their way.

#### WILLIAM ELFELDT

I came to Buda Precinct in June, 1868, in company with my father and family, and vast has been the change in the appearance of the western prairies since that eventful day.

To the early pioneer the present generation owes much for the trials, privations and sufferings they endured in settling up this country. We are unable to describe fully what they passed through. In those days we lived in what we called dug-outs, which were usually dug into the side hill and would be about

12 by 20 feet square and 7 feet deep, covered with poles, brush, hay and rounded up with dirt. In this kind of a house we were almost sure to have during the summer months plenty of crickets, as well as fleas, but in the winter the dug-out was comfort itself.

The settlers in the south part of Lancaster County did not come in chair cars or Pullman sleepers, but instead it was a canvas top wagon with either an ox or a horse team which had traveled overland in most instances from three to five hundred miles. Our nearest trading point was Nebraska City, fifty miles to our east, with no roads, only Indian and freight trails. When going to market with these slow ways of conveyance, often taking nearly a week to make the trip, the wife and babies would be left at home without company, except it be a troupe of traveling or visiting Indians making a call or begging for something to eat. The nearest neighbor would be miles away.

The first school taught in our neighborhood was held in a rude log structure, the property of a private individual. A hewed board attached to the wall, with wooden pins stuck in for legs, formed desks; the same sort of hewed slab with pins attached formed the seats and a desk for the teacher was made on the same order. The children of today would consider themselves ill-treated if obliged to attend school in a structure of this kind. But these were some of the trials of the pioneer children. Religious meetings were held in private houses, the old circuit rider coming on horseback, but our spiritual experiences were fully up to the standard of today.

Farm implements were as crude as the houses. The corn was planted with a hoe, the dropping being done by hand, and cultivated with a one-horse shovel plow. Small grain was harrowed in with an A-shaped "drag" and usually harvested with cradles, afterward by the John P. Manney Hand Rake.

On our arrival here deer and antelope were quite numerous, but the buffalo was farther west. The animal most in evidence, however, in my remembrance, was the prairie wolf. A few of these would simply make the night hideous, and to a person without experience it would seem that the country was infested with them. Chickens and small pigs, however, were all that they ever molested.

With all the disadvantages of the pioneer, there were many advantages. We were all on a common level financially, game was plentiful; we were all on the same mission, to establish a home, and though the pioneer suffered and passed through a great many hardships, he would not take a small fortune for his early experience.

#### MRS. MARY SCHMALE

A glimpse of Lancaster County in the days of the pioneer and that of today would be a striking contrast. The mind can hardly conceive the change that has been wrought. No houses, no schools, no churches, no fields, no bridges—nothing but barren prairie as far as the eye could see. Here and there might be seen a few trees along the streams. The few settlers that were here lived in dug-outs that could not be seen until a person was on the spot and saw the smoke coming up through a hole in the ground.

On the 6th day of May, 1867, my father, with his family, started for his homestead on the northwest quarter of section 8, in what is now Middle Creek.



It was ten miles west of Lancaster, now Lincoln. We started at 3 o'clock in the morning with an ox-team belonging to one of our neighbors and expected to reach the place by noon. We were obliged to make our way as best we could around the different sloughs and across the different streams, and instead of driving to the exact spot as we expected to do, at nightfall we found ourselves just north of where Emerald is now situated. We were obliged to camp out for the night. After our evening meal a bed was made on the ground. We all, only nine of us, lay down to rest in one bed, with nothing but the starry skies over us. We arrived at our future home the following noon.

The following winter was hard times for the settlers; the crop of 1866 was principally destroyed by grasshoppers, which made flour high-priced. We paid \$9 per hundredweight for flour and \$4.50 per hundredweight for cornmeal; bacon, 35 cents a pound; sugar, 25 cents; calico, 38 and 40 cents per yard; muslin, 40 to 45 cents, and other things in proportion. Our meat consisted mostly of wild game, and many a meal in those days was spread with cornmeal and prairie chickens. Nearly all of the early pioneers depended upon their guns to furnish their meat.

The first homestead in the precinct was taken by John Poole, the northeast quarter of section 22. To his daughter, Mary, belongs the honor of being the first white child born in the township.

The first death was that of Miss Alwilda Burd in the autumn of 1869.

In 1867 our nearest postoffice was Lincoln, and we were fortunate to receive our mail once in two weeks.

In 1870 the railroad pushed through to Lincoln, after which times were better. More settlers came, more grain was raised and all had plenty to eat. Nearly everything was cheaper and stock raising became one of the industries.

Mr. C. L. Laune, a resident of Middle Creek, experienced pioneer life in its true sense. In passing through this section he was not, at first, pleased with the soil and located on the Blue. At one time, on account of the high water and no bridges, the family were obliged to subsist for at least a week entirely on hominy. Later, after attending a wedding, they came home and brought a biscuit made of wheat flour for each of the children, which was considered by them one of the greatest luxuries.

At another time, on a return trip from Nebraska City, he had quite an experience. On arriving at Haines Branch the bridge was gone. The wagon was unloaded and the box removed and a rope attached. One man then swam the creek, taking the end of the rope with him. By this means the box was made to act as a ferry boat and their goods ferried across. The oxen were compelled to swim. This illustrates some of the trials of the pioneer.

In 1869, a Mr. Thompson, who lived in a dug-out near the creek on section 8, was awakened in the night by the call of his daughter, Clara, for a drink of water. On putting his hand out of bed he found that water was all over the room. The creek was in front of the house. They were obliged to escape through a hole in one end of the house by placing a table under it and a chair on top of that. The rain was coming down in torrents; they were obliged to walk half a mile to a neighbor's house. Their dug-out was destroyed and they were obliged to live the next three months in a covered wagon box.

The dug-out is a comfortable place in the winter, but very unhealthy in the

summer. To find snakes in your house was not an uncommon thing. The good mother usually examined the bed before the family retired to know that there was not a rattler hidden therein.

The absence of timber made the obtaining of fuel a problem for the early settler. When a new settler inquired, "Where do you get your fuel?" he was usually answered by saying, "On section 37," which meant on any Government land not yet taken up. The people lived very quietly in those days. They would gather first at one neighbor's house and then another to hold church and prayer meeting, and were usually supplied with a minister from Lincoln.

In 1866 there was a sod schoolhouse erected on section 35, and a Mr. Dunlap taught a three months' term of school. In 1868 a frame building was erected at Emerald, William Meyers teaching the first term of school. From that time on the country improved very rapidly, new dwellings and new schoolhouses were erected, churches were built, and the whole country was in a prosperous condition.

There is something in the life on the frontier that is very fascinating, due principally to the sociability and lack of envy. All were on an equality and all very hospitable. Strangers were well received and were made to feel welcome, if only a piece of bread and butter and a straw bed were the best you had to offer. Now while talking to the pioneers of those days we say "Those good old days," forgetting all the hardships.

#### MAGNES DENSBERGER

The early settlers of Oak Precinct experienced many of the hardships coincident to pioneer life. The unbridged streams and the scarcity of well-beaten roads made marketing a burden in those days. Many a hard trip was made to mill and many a horse and man were tired out when the trip was completed.

I located in Oak Precinct in 1878. My first crop was raised on rented land, after which I bought the northwest quarter of section 30, the place where I now reside. This was nothing but raw prairie and was void of a brush large enough to whip a dog. My first house was a rough board shanty 14 by 16, battened with lath on the outside. The first winter was spent in this primitive affair and to keep warm without an abundance of fuel was a problem we were obliged to solve. One blizzard during that winter will be a lifetime remembrance. Snow piled up as high as the houses and at our place we were obliged to tunnel under the snow to get to the chicken house.

Lancaster County, like most of the western country, had its experience with desperate characters. Horse stealing became a common thing and to guard against this, a vigilance committee was formed which had the desired effect, for I never knew of anything being stolen thereafter.

There were a good many Indians in the country at that time but they were friendly. I will not forget my first sight of one. He was a big burly fellow, begging something to eat and was hard to get rid of. He wore the usual Indian blanket and to all appearances had never taken a bath. The tomahawk attached to his belt reminded me of the Indian stories I had read years before.

Farming was done in those days at a disadvantage. Corn was chopped in with an axe, the old A-shaped "drag" did the harrowing. No riding plows or cultivators in those days. However, we succeeded in raising good crops and

the pioneer that had the energy and stick-to-it-iveness to stay by his claim, almost to a man succeeded well.

JOHN THOMPSON

On the 17th day of March, 1871, when I first set foot in West Oak Precinct, it was warm and dusty, the few settlers had got their wheat sown and the wild plums were in full bloom. The prairie, however, was as black as if it had been burned over, which gave it a desolate appearance for an old country boy.

I homesteaded eighty acres on section 28. There was not a bridge or culvert from O Street, Lincoln, to where I lived. There was no railroad, no postoffice, no store or market nearer than Lincoln. To add to the desolate appearance of the country and the inconvenience of the settlers, on the 11th of April we experienced one of the worst sleet and ice storms I ever knew. Young trees and old tree tops were broken by the weight of the ice and for a time it was almost impossible for stock to move about. Dug-outs and sod houses were the principal dwelling houses. I erected the fourth frame house in the township. Log houses would occasionally be seen; stables and corn cribs were built of poles and covered with slough grass.

A few prices will give the people of today an idea of what it cost to get a start in Nebraska in 1871. I paid \$1 per bushel for wheat, 50 cents for corn, 50 cents for oats, \$7 per hundred for hogs, 18 cents per pound for bacon, \$5 per hundred for flour, \$1 per pound for tea, and received twelve pounds of sugar for \$1. I paid \$3 for half a dozen common chickens, coal could not be purchased at any price, and wood was worth \$6 a cord.

In 1873, we were visited by grasshoppers, which did some damage, but nothing compared with the following year, when we were not able to save an ear of corn. Various ways were instituted to save our wheat crop, which we partially succeeded in doing. I took a long rope, hitched a horse on each end and, with a boy on each horse, kept them going up and down through the field and in this way kept the hoppers moving for three days and prevented the total destruction of my crop. I have seen them so thick that you could not drop a silver dollar without striking them. Our corn crop having been ruined, we were compelled to feed our horses and hogs wheat, and this in very sparing quantities.

The first school district in the township, number 47, comprised twenty-one sections. The building was built in 1873, and a three months' term of school taught. The teacher was paid \$25 per month.

Our first postoffice was established in 1873 and was named Crouse, in honor of ex-Congressman and ex-Governor Crouse. We received our mail twice a week.

Little did we realize when we located in Nebraska, how the years would transform and change the face of the country from a barren, bleak prairie to one of the banner states in the Union, and that the land that cost this Government about two cents per acre, would in our time reach a price that ranged from fifty to seventy-five dollars. That instead of traveling over unbridged streams and storm-swept prairies to secure a letter, it would be delivered finally each day

at our door. Why should not the pioneer feel satisfied for his efforts in establishing beautiful homes for himself as well as future generations?

J. V. COVE

It was in 1871 that I made my first trip to the "American Desert." Few were the settlers indeed and vast was the prairie. Along the streams might be seen small groves of timber with an occasional shanty and small portions of prairie broken. In the autumn great care must be exercised in putting out fire guards and if the settler neglected to take this precaution he was almost sure to suffer from the prairie fires which oftentimes, driven by a strong wind, would travel between twenty and thirty miles an hour. One of the worst fires experienced commenced here October 6, 1871, the day the great Chicago Fire started.

One of the things most dreaded by the early settler in harvest and haying time was the common rattlesnakes, which were found in this country in great numbers. They would often be pitched upon a load of hay or grain, and the stacker as well as the loader had to be on the lookout to avoid being bitten by them. Cattle were oftentimes bitten and many are the stories that might be told of the trouble they caused.

In the spring of 1869, two families from Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, moved to Nebraska and settled in the southern part of Lancaster County. At this time there was plenty of homestead land, and all was a bleak, wild prairie. In the late summer of that same year there followed about seven or eight other families, all of whom were poor in this world's goods and without money. Their first dwellings were constructed of sod and were from ten to fifty miles to any store. Their market place was Nebraska City, a distance of about forty-five miles, where wheat was worth 40 cents per bushel. The little settlement remained the same until 1870 and 1871, when others made their appearance and a Holland colony was formed, the growth of which has been steady since that date. Fine residences and other improvements now dot the country over and the land that a few years ago had practically no value is now valued at from fifty to seventy-five dollars per acre.











*U. S. Veterans' Hospital*

